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Alfreton Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health and Chief Public Health Inspector
For the Year 1958

To which is added certain details by the Surveyor
for the same year

Medical Officer of Health :

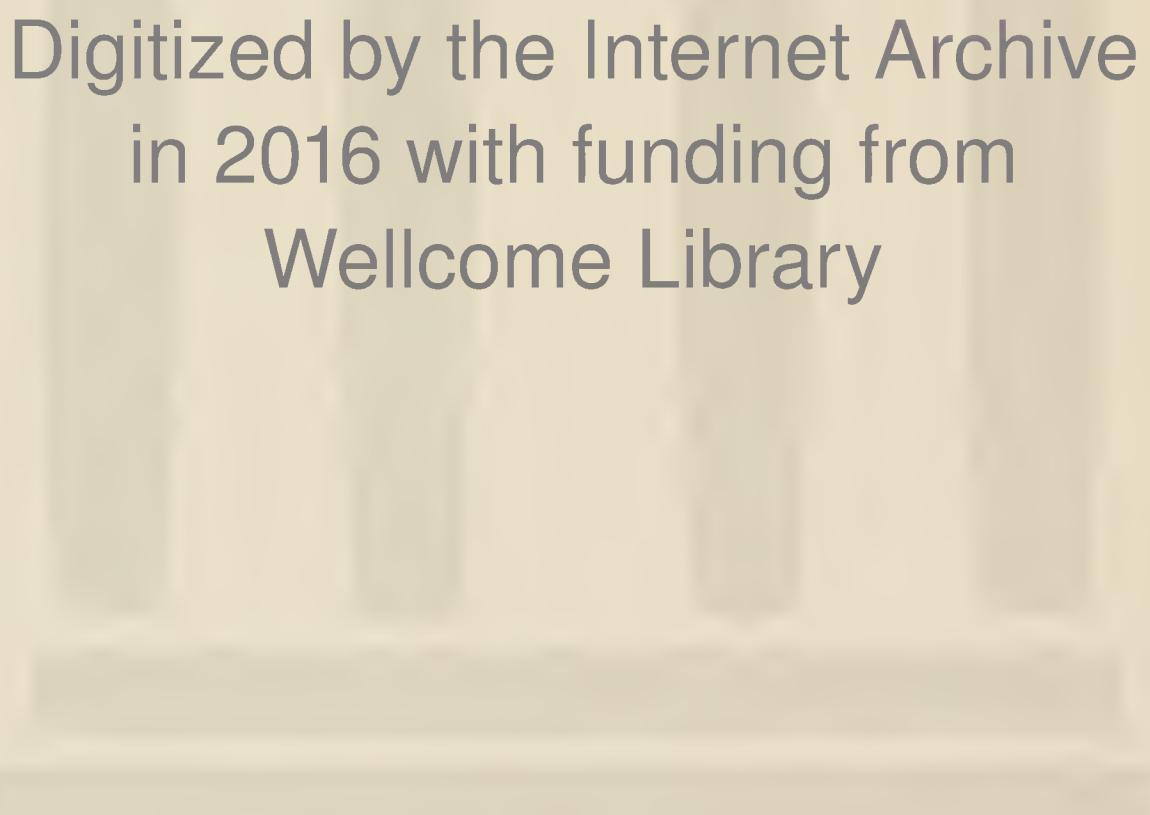
PHILIP WEYMAN, L.R.C.P. & S.E., L.R.F.P. & S. D.P.H.

FRANCIS P. WALTERS

Acting Surveyor and Water Engineer.

ERNEST MERCER, M.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

*Chief Public Health Inspector, Cleansing Superintendent
and Shops Act Inspector*



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Alfreton Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

Public Health Committee:

COUNCILLOR M. HEWITT (Chairman)

Members: All the members of the Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

"THE FIRS," HIGH STREET, ALFRETON

Medical Officer of Health. (Tel. No. Alfreton 614)

* PHILIP WEYMAN, L.R.C.P.& S.E., L.R.F.P.& S., D.P.H.

**Chief Public Health Inspector, Cleansing Superintendent
and Shops Act Inspector.** (Tel. No. Alfreton 292/3)

* E. MERCER, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
(Cert. for Meat and Food Inspection)

Assistant Public Health Inspector.

* G. T. HAYES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
(Cert. for Meat and Food Inspection)

General Clerk.

MR. G. E. BUNTING.
(Commenced July, 1958)

Receptionist and Shorthand Typist.

MISS D. RANDLE
(Resigned May, 1958)

MISS M. BOSTON

* *Exchequer grant contributions to salary*

1958 - 1959

Alfreton Urban District Council

Chairman : Councillor M. Hewitt

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Mrs. N. Bramley

ALFRETON WARD

Date elected

1950	Councillor R. BOWLZER
1946	,, G. H. COWHAM
1921	,, G. W. HARDY
1950	,, M. HEWITT
1949	,, A. McGREGOR
1956	,, J. FULLWOOD

SOMERCOTES WARD

1951	Councillor Mrs. N. L. BRAMLEY
1956	,, J. W. STORER
1955	,, W. T. RIMMINGTON

RIDDINGS WARD

1953	Councillor T. BRADLEY
1938	,, H. BRADSHAW
1943	,, D. SKELTON

SWANWICK WARD

1946	Councillor G. HUNT
1949	,, F. C. PEACOCK
1953	,, S. D. SANSAM

IRONVILLE WARD

1946	Councillor J. GREGORY, c.c.
1949	,, B. F. WESTON

The Council meets on the first Tuesday of each month
at 6.30 p.m.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ALFRETON.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District of Alfreton.*

Madam Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1958.

As with previous reports comments on various matters are included in the body of the report.

The impact of television dealing with health topics, the excellent co-operation of the Press in developing these topics and the use by advertisers of matters involving individual health are all leading to most rapid education.

This is not fully realised. Continuation of poor conditions leads to despair and to many difficulties. The changes in medical treatment, particularly in mental health, need bigger steps forward so that education and development can go together. Each family should have a reasonable possibility of good environment provided either by themselves or by others.

Attention should be drawn more frequently to poliomyelitis vaccination and to whooping cough vaccination. These are amongst the most valuable of our methods of preventing two damaging diseases.

I am glad to record my pleasure at the co-operation existing between the members of the Council, the public and the staff of the Health Department. It must be known, however, that I cannot help, advise, or take action concerning matters about which I have no information.

My thanks go to the Chief Public Health Inspector for the clear, concise way in which he has written his part of the Annual Report.

I have to thank the staff in my office for the very pleasant and efficient way in which they do their work.

I am, Madam Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

PHILIP WEYMAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

The statistics which appear in this report have been compiled from information received from a number of sources throughout the year.

The Registrar of Births and Deaths for Alfreton supplies a weekly return giving details of births and deaths occurring in the area.

Notifications of infectious disease are sent in by Medical Practitioners and in cases of Tuberculosis, sometimes by the Chest Physicians and Hospital Medical Officers.

The notification of suspected cases is most important. For instance in poliomyelitis, food poisoning and dysentery. Telephone communications are much appreciated and can save a great deal of time.

Additional information about infectious disease and undiagnosed illnesses come from hospitals, school teachers, parents, health visitors and casual conversations.

At weekly and quarterly intervals, details regarding infectious diseases, births and deaths, are received from the Registrar General. This enables a watch to be kept on any unusually prevalent disease in the County, or surrounding districts or towns.

Population.

The population at 30th June, 1958, was estimated by the Registrar General to be 23,190, a fall of 490 from last year. (See Table 4).

An attempt has been made by local enquiry and by enquiring from the Registrar General to find the cause of this decline in population.

Apart from the transfer of refugees no evidence of movement of population could be found.

The number of refugees using the Alfreton Miners' Hostel was about the same as the decline in the numbers of the population.

The Registrar General has agreed to examine the estimate and any adjustments made will be found in the mid 1959 figure.

Births.

The birth rate is a little lower for the year than that for England and Wales.

340 live births were registered giving a crude birth rate per thousand of the population of 14.66. This figure, when adjusted for comparison purposes by the application of the comparability factor of 0.97 is 14.22 and is 2.18 per thousand lower than the England and Wales rate. (See summary of statistics and table 4).

Infant Mortality.

6 Infant deaths were recorded, 4 falling in the neonatal category, i.e., deaths occurring under the age of 4 weeks. Deaths were due to Bronchitis, Prematurity and Congenital Malformation. The rates per thousand live births for infant deaths and neonatal deaths are both quite appreciably lower than the national figures. (See Summary of Statistics).

Stillbirths.

The number of stillbirths has fallen to 7 following the rather high rate last year (Table 2). The rate per thousand births (live and still) is 20.17. This is lower than the England and Wales figure.

Deaths.

238 deaths were registered in 1958. This represents a crude death rate per thousand of the population of 10.26.

In order to be of value for comparative purposes the comparability factor of 1.18 must be applied. This gives an adjusted rate of 12.11 which is a little higher than the England and Wales figure. (See summary of Statistics).

Deaths from Individual Diseases.

The 238 deaths are set out in Table 5 broken down into individual causes and according to sex.

Disease of Heart and Circulatory System.

126 deaths occurred in this group, 71 Males and 55 Females. Nos. 17 to 21 inclusive in Table 5 make up this section which was responsible for over 50% of the total deaths recorded.

34 deaths were due to vascular lesions of the nervous system and 7 to other diseases of the circulatory system; 44 were attributed to various diseases of the heart and 41 to coronary disease. In the latter case the ratio of males to females is almost 3 to 1.

Coronary Disease.

Concern continues to be felt about the number of deaths from coronary disease. Many investigations have been carried out in different parts of the world and many more are still in progress. Many factors have been studied, physical activity, alcoholism, obesity, smoking and over indulgence in many activities. No satisfactory solution to this disease has yet been found.

The only advice which can be given to the public at present in their wish to avoid this disease is moderation in all things. Consumption of over-rich food, too much alcohol, heavy smoking, are all bad in any case and an individual discipline of moderation should be followed. It is important for the sedentary

worker - the chair-bound office type - to take a certain amount of exercise every day. The emphasis is on exercise *and* every day. A sudden burst of activity at week-ends does not replace a good daily regime.

One of the worst features of our modern life is the organisation of work into groups of almost completely sedentary occupations and manual occupations. More thought should be given to organising jobs so that the chair-bound have to take a certain amount of physical activity during their day's work. The employer would then have more active and fitter employees.

Work must also be organised so that constant mental strain can be relieved at intervals or reduced to a reasonable level. Quite often the strain builds up because the conscientious individual is not able to relax. It is most important that such individuals should not be overloaded and should have reasonable breaks in their work during the year.

Cancer Group.

50 deaths from all forms of cancer were recorded in 1958. The records for the last 20 years have been checked and this is the first time that the total cancer deaths have reached 50.

Despite this overall increase lung cancer deaths are down from last year and give a death rate per thousand of the population lower than that for England and Wales (See Summary of Statistics).

Tuberculosis.

1958 is the first year, so far as the records of the department show, that no deaths from Tuberculosis have been registered.

Bronchitis.

There were 9 deaths from bronchitis.

This does not give a true picture of this troublesome disease. It is a frequent cause of illness and causes much absence from work. It has become known as the English Disease on account of its high incidence in this country.

It is commoner in urban areas. Factors which affect general health and well-being are most important. Good dry houses with adequate accommodation and air space are essential. Clean air is another most important factor. The constituents of smoke deposited on buildings and materials cause increased wear and deterioration. Sunlight is occulted and that familiar dismal outlook which persists day after day in England except in seaside resorts is the result. All this results in poorer health and increased liability to disease.

Clean Air.

Much attention has been paid to Clean Food and Pure Water but not enough attention to the air we breathe. This amounts to 15,000 quarts of air per day, per person ; 10 times as much by weight as our intake of food and water combined. This is a great and complex problem.

The major aspect at present is the operation of the Clean Air Act dealing with industrial and domestic smoke.

Other aspects of atmospheric pollution neglected are tobacco smoking, and bacteriological pollution, by people, of air in confined spaces in vehicles and premises. Intimately linked is adequate ventilation of meeting places of all types.

Lastly and not least is the subject of motor vehicle fumes in our streets. These matters have been reported on and discussed by the Health Committee during the year.

Smoke.

The Chief Health Inspector and the Chairman of the Health Committee have been active on this matter. Much information has been obtained. Measurement of pollution by means of deposit gauges has commenced so that a proper basis for action can be laid. Further measurements and apparatus are required and more equipment will be obtained next year, subject to the annual estimates.

Basically this is a coal mining area with gradual change over to other industry. The problems of miners' concessionary coal, and the use of fuel produced by a local industry need very careful consideration.

The Chief Public Health Inspector is doing much work with local industry with a view to the prevention of all industrial smoke by 1963, as laid down in the Clean Air Act. With domestic pollution the way is more difficult. The installation of modern appliances, more efficient and capable of burning smokeless fuel, continues all the time.

The knowledge of great stocks of smokeless fuel sold at high prices, does not encourage experiment which is a necessary prelude to a smokeless area.

The production of reasonably priced smokeless fuels is necessary. Experiment in this direction appears to be rather late in a country with surplus coal stocks.

On the whole progress is being made, rather slowly, but with a sound foundation.

Cigarette smoking is a problem. Its statistical relation with lung cancer makes it necessary to keep the habit within complete control. Where it has not been stopped, ventilation to keep the atmosphere clear for those who do not smoke is neces-

sary. Most places of meeting and transport vehicles are badly and ineffectively ventilated, or ventilation is badly regulated. More action by members of the public in this matter should produce results.

Pollution of narrow and busy streets by motor vehicle fumes makes one glad to hear of the progress on motor ways and bypasses so that the smoking monsters can be kept away from our narrow and otherwise friendly streets. More action on this matter is needed and the matter should be closely examined - the whole aspect of exhaust fumes should be considered. No doubt the visionary can see the end of petrol and oil engines with the advent of portable nuclear reactors, development of electricity storage systems and other devices, but this will take a long time.

The problems are, then, to obtain more basic data on all forms of pollution and then act on it. This means proper instrumentation and more time spent on it.

Provided progress is not spoilt by impatience or by not seizing opportunities when they arise, there should be good progress in this field.

Accidents.

8 persons, 6 men and 2 women, died as a result of accidents. A motor cycle accident was responsible for one of these deaths, a young man of 17. 2 men aged 43 and 82 and 2 women aged 46 and 64 were found drowned; one man was killed in a colliery accident and the two remaining deaths were caused by falls. One of these being a woman of 79 who died after falling downstairs.

The absence of handrails on some staircases should not be allowed to continue - at least one secure handrail is needed, two are ideal if older people are using the staircase.

Bad lighting is another cause of accidents on staircases.

Home Safety.

This subject has been reported on on a number of occasions and considered by the Health Committee. There is a realisation of the situation and action has been taken by exhibition of posters and discussions. Beside the dramatic public scene and tragedy of traffic accidents, home safety seems rather a dull matter. Once a few enthusiastic workers are gathered together progress is made.

More active work might be stimulated on home safety if more information were available. Road accident statistics are easy to obtain because all accidents must be reported.

Home accidents are not reported. Ministry of Health Circular H.M. (58) 12 and Circular 6/58 drawing attention to accidents in the home and asking for co-operation between hospitals and Medical Officers of Health in producing records of accidents has apparently resulted in little or no action. Statistics and detail of accidents are a basis for action to prevent further accidents. It is a pity that recent legislation making available Improvement Grants did not make some specific reference and requirement to safety in the home.

The most active persons in Home Safety are the County Council Health Visitors and the Derbyshire Fire Service. Their work is much appreciated.

It is hoped that Officers in other departments will keep a special eye open for situations which might cause accidents. It is sometimes possible by action or suitable comment to rectify some of these dangerous situations.

First Aid.

The attention of the Council was drawn to the importance of trained first aid workers and first aid equipment. Staff will be encouraged to obtain the necessary training. It is important to remember that new employees need to be informed of arrangements and the older employees reminded at regular intervals.

The prevention of serious illness by the timely use of simple first aid treatment is well known. Often the cleaning of a cut or scratch and application of a ready made dressing will prevent much discomfort at work and avoid a period of illness.

Simple equipment should be available to all whether they work in offices or elsewhere.

Suicide.

One man, aged 52 committed suicide by Coal Gas poisoning.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

127 cases of infectious disease were notified in 1958. Seven diseases were involved but in the main the incidence was quite low, particularly so when it is realised that 99 cases, or approximately 78% of the total notified, were in respect of one disease viz.:- Whooping Cough.

The incidence of individual diseases was as follows:- Whooping Cough 99, Tuberculosis 10, Measles 7, Scarlet Fever 4, Poliomyelitis 3, Pneumonia 2 and Puerperal Pyrexia 2.

Tables 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 give details of age, sex distribution and seasonal incidence of these diseases.

Whooping Cough.

99 cases were notified, 55 occurred in children of pre-school age, the remaining 44 being notified in children in the first five years of school life. More than one third of the total of 99 occurred in children under the age of 3 years, 13 before the first birthday.

Whooping Cough is a troublesome and serious disease in young children and babies. It is not realised always that some protection against this disease can be given by vaccination procedure. Whilst it may not prevent the disease it does greatly reduce the possibility of severe paroxysms of coughing which cause lung damage and long periods of low health with increased susceptibility to respiratory disease. Advice should be sought from the family doctor.

Tuberculosis.

10 new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year. One of these, a woman of 33, was of a non-respiratory type. The 9 cases of respiratory tuberculosis, were, with the exception of a woman of 68, all notified in persons of working age. The occupations of the relevant cases were quite varied.

Tables 6 and 7 set out details for comparative purposes and show the 1958 total to be reasonable when compared with the general incidence in Alfreton over the last 10 years.

Visit of Mass Radiography Unit to Alfreton, 1958.

The Nottingham No. 2 Area Mass Radiography Unit carried out a survey in Alfreton between the 20th May and the 10th June, 1958. The Director of the Unit has provided the following details :-

Total number of persons X-rayed :

1958	...	...	...	3371
(Adults 2328, Children 1043)				
1956	...	...	...	3292
1954	...	...	...	4303

One person was discovered with Active Tuberculosis. Three cases were discovered which require observation.

The result of this visit must be considered satisfactory in view of the low incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis discovered. It must be remembered that the National Coal Board has its own X-ray facilities and General Practitioners can obtain X-ray examination as required so that out of the population a large number of people are regularly covered by examinations.

Measles.

The 7 cases were notified in the summer months and occurred in children under the age of 10 years. A low incidence after last year's extremely high total of 512. Table 10 shows it to be one of the smallest totals in the last 10 years.

Poliomyelitis.

The 2 cases of Paralytic Poliomyelitis occurred in October in a girl of 10 and a boy of 4. The non-paralytic case, a boy of 9, followed in November.

All these children lived in the same part of the Urban District.

The usual precautions were taken and various visits were made to all families to check on contacts and home circumstances. In accordance with County Council instructions, close contacts of school age were excluded for a period of 3 weeks. The disease remains a great worry to those living near or in contact with a case.

Vaccination affords protection and is now available for all persons born on or after 1st January, 1933. Vaccination is carried out by the family doctors or by the County Council Medical Staff.

Diarrhoea.

Although diarrhoea is not officially notifiable it is known that many cases do occur amongst the population. Most are not reported and the person clears up without any trouble apart from discomfort and inconvenience. Organisms causing the diarrhoea may be dangerous and deadly to some people, particularly young babies.

The first point to remember is that cases not reported cannot be investigated. Cases reported late are also of little use.

The second point is that personal cleanliness, washing hands after using the lavatory and before meals, is the main barrier to the spread of such disease. It takes only one careless person to start an outbreak. Having trained people that they must wash their hands it is a crime to confront them with a cold tap, a dirty basin, no towel or soap.

Are all lavatories used by the public, adults and children, cleaned and swabbed down with disinfectant at regular intervals? Are the seats, door knobs, chain handles done properly? How many housewives do these jobs regularly at home? Are cleaners and attendants instructed in the basic facts of disease prevention?

Let us all make an effort to see that we do all we should to live up to at least a minimum standard.

Sewage Disposal.

The importance of sewage disposal should not need to be emphasised. At the time of writing the first contract for the new sewerage scheme has been let. It is hoped that work will start without undue delay. At last the Authority is within sight of a good modern sewage disposal scheme. The Health of the population will be safeguarded and future development can go on safely.

As the scheme progresses the pail closets at the bottom of the garden should disappear and it is hoped that modern lavatories in or attached to the houses will replace them.

Food Poisoning.

During the year reference was made to circular 5/58 from the Ministry of Health and the subject of food poisoning.

After consideration of the 18,500 cases reported in England and Wales in 1956 the following conclusions were highlighted and are again emphasised to all concerned in handling food.

1. Adequate supervision is an essential in all stages of food handling, from place of production to consumer.
2. Attention to personal hygiene is a big factor in preventing contamination of foodstuffs (e.g. washing of hands, disinfection of toilets).
3. Facilities must be provided and personnel instructed.
4. Scrupulous care in handling food at all stages is required, including staffs in shops and kitchens.
5. Training of food handlers (including all people who work in food shops and kitchens) so that they know and understand the dangers.

Not enough use is made of bacteriological examinations in safeguarding the consumer.

It should be common practice to take swabs on food premises. This would give a check on the standard of hygiene of food handlers and on the care of foodstuffs.

The normal surface contamination of meat sold to the housewife is not known. Organisms can be transferred from one foodstuff to another by handling. If dangerous organisms were present there could be danger to the housewife and family.

The real job is to prevent and not to await complaint or illness.

Dogs.

This problem rears its head at intervals. Most of us like dogs and admire them but their habits make them animals many of us would rather someone else kept.

There is no doubt however that if both owner and dog are properly trained there is no problem at all. But it does need some effort. A certificate of training of owner and dog to be produced at the annual time of licence renewal might be a way of tackling this problem.

As an instance of the result of training, one dog is seen regularly to use a pedestrian crossing and gives no trouble to anyone. "Blind" dogs and police dogs are instances of the value of training.

Like human beings dogs can carry and pass on disease. This may be acquired from humans or other dogs. Proper care and the assistance of a veterinary surgeon, if needed, are necessary parts of dog care.

PREVENTION OF DISEASE.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Poliomyelitis.

All details of the vaccination scheme are arranged and carried out by the County Council Staff and family doctors. Persons of up to 26 years of age should come forward to be vaccinated. It must be done in advance. Be prepared. Panic vaccination when cases occur will not protect against immediate infection.

Tuberculosis.

The B.C.G. Vaccination scheme carried out by the County Council Staff continues.

Whooping Cough.

Once again it is emphasised that it is well worth while having young children and babies vaccinated against whooping cough. Prevention of serious illness or disability is relatively easy.

As with poliomyelitis, a minor procedure such as a short series of injections can prevent major disability.

Holidays Abroad.

Voluntary protection against some diseases is possible. Most people fulfil the requirement of the Health Authority and nothing else. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers are not unusual in some foreign countries. H.M. Forces are protected against these diseases most successfully by immunisation.

Holidaymakers have returned home with paratyphoid fever and some have had to have treatment abroad. Might it not be wise for families to take reasonable precaution where it is possible.

HOUSING AND SLUM CLEARANCE.

There are a number of points to be kept in mind when considering a housing programme.

1. There are services available which can only be utilised to the full when satisfactory housing conditions are available. More people have their illnesses at home and remain under their family doctors. Health Visitors, Home Helps and District Nurses work in the home.

All these people require as a basis for their work good environmental conditions. Sanitation and housing should be good. Damp insanitary houses can lead to perpetuation of medical conditions which these people are trying to advise the family how to deal with. No family is able to develop a proper standard of living in a cramped unsanitary dwelling.

2. It should be firmly understood that the home is the workplace of the women who have to train, feed and bring up children and care for the older ones.

Nowadays much technical equipment is used, not envisaged in other days. Space is required for washing machines, drying cupboards and refrigerators as minimum equipment.

3. The mental outlook of the family is also bound up with the accommodation difficulties. The constant irritation from congestion of living room space, the difficulty of nursing the ill or fractious child needs patience and care which the average person may not possess. Consequent domestic friction causes worry at work and makes a most unhappy result of housing shortages. This shortage, therefore, in combination with slum dwellings, or, more properly, sub-standard houses, continues indefinitely conditions which all health workers are trying to remove.

Below is a summary of the housing activities for the district over the last four years :-

	Erected by		Under Erection		Houses Demolished Following Demolition Orders
	Local Authority	Others	Local Authority	Others	
1955	86	37	44	44	16
1956	44	51	0	23	20
1957	0	41	0	20	19
1958	16★	42	44	19	17
	—	—	—	—	—
	146	171	88	106	72

★These 16 houses have been built without grant from Central Government.

Included in this report mention should be made of the final rehousing of the occupants of 23 huts known as Hayes Villas. We are glad to see the end of this wretched accommodation.

The slum clearance programme presented to the Council 1955/1956 included 585 properties for clearance by 1971.

This presents a wonderful opportunity to help the people and redevelop parts of the area.

CARE OF OLD PEOPLE.

A number of old people are seen during the year in connection with the need for care and attention under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act or in connection with housing needs.

Arrangements are in hand by the W.V.S. at the time of writing to start a Meals on Wheels service, providing a suitable organiser can be found.

In connection with the supply of meals to older people, it has always been a surprise that this is such a difficult and sometimes cumbersome job.

Is it not possible for local authorities to encourage the production of suitable prepacked meals delivered by tradesmen to members of the population? The use of refrigerators and pre-packing techniques could make this an easy and fairly cheap operation. To those unable to prepare and afford regular meals, financial assistance should be available in the usual way, through the National Assistance Board.

The Alfreton Urban District Old Peoples' Welfare Committee runs a Chiropody Service which does a considerable amount of work.

The chairman of the committee reports as follows:-

"The Alfreton Urban District Old Peoples' Welfare Committee initiated in 1955 a Chiropody Service for the benefit of old people.

The Scheme provides that any person in the Alfreton Urban District over the age of 65 years may have chiropody treatment at the reduced rate of 2/6 per treatment, and the Committee accepts responsibility for the payment of the balance of the chiropodist's fee.

In the majority of cases the old people have been able to visit the surgeries of the chiropodists where sessions are reserved for their attendance, and if they cannot visit the surgeries owing to infirmity, special arrangements are made for these persons to be visited in their homes.

During 1958, a total number of 1,254 treatments were given to 243 persons and the Committee subsidised the scheme to the extent of £195 4s. 7d.

The Committee usually has at least one meeting each month and matters are discussed concerning the working of the scheme and ways and means of raising funds. The income of the Committee is largely dependent on local efforts by way of Flag Days, social events and donations. Grants have been received from the National Corporation for the Care of Old People but it is understood that for 1959 these will cease, but County and District Councils will have power to contribute under the terms of the new National Health Act. Voluntary efforts for raising funds will still be necessary if the scheme is to function in its present form as the Committee has now reached its highly satisfactory aim of being in a position to provide a Chiropody Service at a nominal cost for every person over 65 years who resides in the Alfreton Urban District."

Considerable effort is required to run and organise this scheme. It seems a pity that time which might be spent on helping more people has to be used in trying to find money to run the scheme. At the time of writing the County Council is taking action in support of Chiropody schemes.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

The Office of the Medical Officer of Health at Alfreton serves Ilkeston Borough Council and Alfreton, Heanor and Ripley District Councils. In addition the Medical Officer is also an Assistant County Medical Officer with the Derbyshire County Council. The area served has an estimated population of 100,050.

The Borough and each District is dealt with entirely separately, a fifth separate entity being the County Council. Good liaison exists between the Medical Officer of Health, his staff and members of the staff of all five authorities. This grouping makes a most interesting and sometimes complicated job.

All meetings are held in the evenings. Attendance is repaid by the lively and interested comments made by individual members on matters presented in monthly reports.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS. (*M.O.H. AREA*)

Population (Estimated)	...	...	100,050
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	32,708
Population per Acre. ...	...	...	6.17
Live Births Registered	...	...	1,521
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	15.20
Birth Rate England and Wales	...	...	16.4
Still Births Registered	...	...	41
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Births (Live and Still)			26.25
Still Birth Rate, England and Wales	...	...	21.6
Deaths Registered	...	...	1,025
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	10.24
Death Rate, England and Wales...	...	...	11.7
Infant Deaths (under 1 year of age)	...	...	32
Infant Mortality (per 1000 Live Births)	...	...	21.04
Infant Mortality (England and Wales)	...	...	22.5
Neonatal Deaths	...	...	21
Neonatal Mortality per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	13.81
Neonatal Mortality England and Wales	...	...	16.2

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS (*ALFRETON U.D.*)

1. General Statistics.

Area in Acres ...	...	...	...	5,023
Population (estimated)	...	...	...	23,190
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	7,696
Rateable Value (at 31st March, 1959)			...	£191,742
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (at 31st March, 1959)	...	...	...	£744
Population per Acre	...	...	...	4.62
Live births registered	...	...	...	340
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births				2.35
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	14.66
Adjusted Birth Rate (Comparability Factor—0.97)				14.22
Birth Rate England and Wales	...	...	...	16.4
Still Births registered	...	...	...	7
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Births (Live and Still)				20.17
Still Birth Rate, England and Wales	...	...	...	21.6
Deaths Registered	...	...	...	238
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	10.26
Adjusted Death Rate (comparability factor 1.18)				12.11
Death Rate, England and Wales	...	...	...	11.7
Maternal Deaths (Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion)				—
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live and still b'ths)				—
Maternal Mortality England and Wales	...	...	...	0.43
Infant Deaths (under 1 year of age) ...	...	...	...	6
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births			...	17.65
Infant Mortality, England and Wales	...	...	...	22.5

Infant Deaths (legitimate) under 1 year of age		5
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births legitimate		15.06
Infant Deaths (illegitimate) under 1 year of age ...		1
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births illegitimate		125.0
Infant Deaths (under 4 weeks of age)		4
Neonatal Mortality per 1,000 lives births		11.77
Neonatal Mortality, England and Wales		16.2
Death Rate per 1,000 population from:		
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	—
Tuberculosis, Respiratory, England and Wales ...		0.089
Tuberculosis, other forms	...	—
Tuberculosis, other forms, England and Wales ...		0.011
Cancer of Lung and Bronchus	...	0.302
Cancer of Lung and Bronchus, England and Wales		0.439
Cancer, other forms	...	1.854
Cancer, other forms, England and Wales		1.685

Table 1. BIRTHS

Births	Legitimate			Illegitimate		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Live	177	155	332	3	5	8
Still	2	5	7	—	—	—

Table 2. STILLBIRTHS. 1948-58.

Year	Number (Live and Still)	Rate per	Year	Number (Live and Still)	Rate per
		thousand Births			thousand Births
1948	6	14.15	1954	7	17.33
1949	10	23.7	1955	13	37.35
1950	17	42.29	1956	7	18.47
1951	10	23.26	1957	11	26.51
1952	19	50.27	1958	7	20.17
1953	11	28.8			

Table 3. INFANT DEATHS.

Infant deaths	Legitimate			Illegitimate		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Under one year of age ...	1	4	5	1	—	1
Under four weeks of age	—	3	3	1	—	1

Table 4. RATES - COMPARATIVE TABLES - 1948-1958.

Year	Population (estimated)	Birth Rate (per 1,000 of population)	Death Rate (per 1,000 of population)	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)
1948	... 22,710	18.66	10.56	52.63
1949	... 22,930	17.96	11.81	52.10
1950	... 23,300	16.82	11.2	28.57
1951	... 23,170	14.28	11.26	24.16
1952	... 23,130	16.34	9.16	27.88
1953	... 23,220	16.60	10.43	40.42
1954	... 23,370	16.99	10.61	22.67
1955	... 23,430	14.29	9.09	26.86
1956	... 23,480	15.84	10.26	24.19
1957	... 23,680	17.06	11.61	24.75
1958	... 23,190	14.66	10.26	17.65

Table 5. CAUSES OF DEATH

		M	F	Total
1	Tuberculosis, Respiratory ...	...	—	—
2	Tuberculosis, Other	...	—	—
3	Syphilitic Disease	...	—	—
4	Diphtheria	...	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	—	—
6	Meningococcal Infection	...	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	—	—
8	Measles	...	—	—
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—
10	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	...	5	1
11	,, ,, Lung, Bronchus	5	2	7
12	,, ,, Breast	...	—	3
13	,, ,, Uterus	...	—	3
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	16	15
15	Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	...	—	—
16	Diabetes	...	1	—
17	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	16	18
18	Coronary Disease, Angina	...	30	11
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	2	3
20	Other Heart Disease	...	18	21
21	Other Circulatory Disease	...	5	2
22	Influenza	...	1	—
23	Pneumonia	...	2	5
24	Bronchitis	...	7	2
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	5	—	5
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	2	1
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	1	1
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	2	—
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	2	—
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	—	—
31	Congenital Malformations	...	—	1
32	Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	9	11	20
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	1	—
34	All Other Accidents	...	5	2
35	Suicide	...	1	—
36	Homicide and Operations of War	...	—	—
All Causes		...	136	102
		...		238

Table 6. TUBERCULOSIS, 1958.

Age Periods	New Cases								Deaths							
	Non- Respiratory				respiratory				Non- Respiratory				respiratory			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under one year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	7	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 7. TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS, 1948 - 1958.

Year	Respiratory			Total	Non- Respiratory			Total	Grand Total
	M	F	Total		M	F	Total		
1948	...	—	—	14	—	—	—	4	18
1949	...	—	—	17	—	—	—	5	22
1950	...	—	—	11	—	—	—	2	13
1951	...	—	—	29	—	—	—	1	30
1952	...	—	—	16	—	—	—	4	20
1953	...	—	—	10	—	—	—	3	13
1954	...	—	—	10	—	—	—	1	11
1955	...	2	5	7	—	—	—	—	7
1956	...	6	2	8	1	3	4	4	12
1957	...	15	3	18	—	1	1	1	19
1958	...	7	2	9	—	1	1	1	10

Table 8.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1958
Age Groups

Notifiable Disease	All Ages	Under 1 yr.	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	60 & over
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Para-Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia, Acute	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis, Paralytic	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis, Non-Paralytic	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	99	13	9	13	11	9	44	—	—	—	—	—

Table 9.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1958.
Seasonal Incidence

Notifiable Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Anthrax ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Para-Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia, Acute	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis, Paralytic...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	7	16	42	22	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	99

Table 10.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

1948 - 1958

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors) :-

Premises	Number on register	Inspec- tions	Number of written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	3	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	92	50	6	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	97	53	6	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were—			No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Remedied	referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork ...)	4	4	4	—	—
Total	6	6	4	2	—

Part VIII of the Act.—Outwork.

Nature of work	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec. 100 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council	Notices served	Prose- cutions
Wearing apparel, making etc.	37	—	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets	10	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets	3	—	—	—
Others	—	—	—	—
Total	50	—	—	—

Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my eighteenth Annual Report, that for the year 1958.

As in previous years, it has been compiled in accordance with Circulars 22/58, dated 9th December, 1958, issued by the Ministry of Health, and Articles 6 (3) and 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935 and 1951, and Article 14 (3) of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1926.

The former requests the Council to give directions for the preparation of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1958, and the latter requires Public Health Inspectors to furnish the Medical Officer of Health with a report of their work during the year under review as soon as possible after the 31st December.

Paragraph 5 of the Circular 17/55, dated 23rd November, 1955, requests the inclusion of the revised tabular statement suggested for the provision of information about the post-mortem inspection of animals in slaughterhouses.

Paragraph 5 of Circular 19/56, dated 11th December, 1956, requests amongst other things that reports should include a reference to the Food Hygiene Regulations. This reference should contain an indication of any prosecutions, citing the regulation(s) under which they were taken.

New Legislation.

Important legislation, Statutory Instruments and Ministry Circulars affecting our work were introduced as follows:-

S.I. 1958 No. 167, 7.2.58. Clean Air Act, 1956 (appointed day) Order, 1958.

Memo. No. 188/Min. Food Poisoning. Steps to be taken in the Investigation and Control of Food Poisoning (Revised 1958).

Milk and Dairies Regs. 1949/1954. Circ. 1/58. 6.1.58.
Approved Cleansing Products.

S.I. 1958. No. 497 Alkali Works Order, 1958. 1st June, 1958.
498. Dark Smoke (permitted period) Regulations, 1958.
1st June, 1958.

Circ. 24/58. 31.3.58. Clean Air Act, 1956. Alkali, etc. Works Regulation Act, 1906.

S.I. 1958. No. 717. Labelling of Food (Amendment) Regs.
3rd May, 1958.
878. Dark Smoke (permitted periods) (Vessels) Regulations, 1958. 1st June, 1958.

Circular FSH 3/58. 31.3.58. Slaughter of Animals Acts.
Electric Stunning. 4/58. 16.4.58.
Public Health (Imported Food) Regs. 1937. 1948.
Official Certificate. 16.4.58. 6/58. 9.5.58.
Chemical Compounds used in Agriculture and Food Storage.

Model Byelaws Series 11C, For Preventing the Keeping of Animals so as to be Prejudicial to Health. March, 1958.

Clean Air Act, 1956. Memorandum on Industrial Provisions.
Clean Catering. Hygiene in Catering Establishments.
Circ. FSH 7/58. Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, 1954.
Cleansing of Milk Vessels. 13.6.58.
FSH 8/58. Meat Content and Price of Sausages.
FSH 9/58. Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations 1937/1948. Federal Republic of Germany Certificate.
Local Government Act, 1958.
Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.
S.I. No. 1046. Rivers Pollution (Restriction on Continuance) Order, 1958. 25.6.58.
1319. Public Health (Preservatives) in Food Regulations, 1958. 14.8.58.
Circ. FSH 10/58. 30.6.58.
Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 to 1954.
Cleansing of Vessels.
FSH 11/58. 11.8.58.
Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.
FSH 12/58. 14/8/58.
Public Health (Preservatives in Food) (Amend.) Regulation, 1958.
FSH 13/58. 20.8.58.
Copper in Foods.
S.I. No. 1454. Anti-oxidants in Food Regulations, 1958. 6.9.58.
1606. Slaughterhouse (Meat Inspection Grant) Regulations 2.10.58.
Circ. FSH 14/58.
The Anti-oxidants in Food Regs. 1958.
Circ. FSH 15/58. 1.10.58.
The Slaughterhouse (Meat Inspection Grant) Regs. 1958.
S.I. No. 2166.
Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regs. 1958. December, 1958.
S.I. No. 2168, operates 1.1.59.
The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regs. 1958.

Circ. FSH 18/58, operates 1.1.59.

The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regs. 1958. 23.12.58.

The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regs. 1958.

S.I. No. 1971.

Slaughter of Pigs (Anæsthesia), Dec. 1st Regulations, 1958.

Circ. FSH 17/58.

Slaughter of Pigs (Anæsthesia), Nov. 29th Regulations, 1958.

As in previous years, we have made every endeavour to deal satisfactorily with all requests for assistance and advice. Such work is indeed rewarding, from the community service point of view.

General departmental administration :-

		No. on Register	Increase or decrease	Inspections made
Bakehouses	...	...	8	0 11
Canal boats	...	...	0	0 0
Common lodging houses	...	1	0	2
Dairies	...	32	-3	15
Factories and workplaces		98	0	53
Houses let in lodgings	...	0	0	0
Ice cream premises	...	75	0	8
Market stalls	...	18	0	479
Milk distributors	...	32	0	13
Moveable dwellings--				
(a) sites	...	7	+1	16
(b) dwellings	...	18	+2	36
Offensive trades	...	1	0	1
Outworkers	...	50	-35	0
Preserved food stores	...	65	0	366
Shops	...	471	0	276
Slaughterhouses	...	13	0	1714
Knackers' yards	...	0	0	0
Swimming baths	...	0	0	0

Sanitary circumstances of the Area.

House and trade refuse :

Portable ashbins in use and emptied by the Council	8,365
Premises visited for collection of trade refuse	... 42
Premises visited for collection of salvage	... 178

Nightsoil :

Pail closets emptied by Council weekly	...	621
Pail closets emptied by Council twice weekly	...	436
Closet sumps emptied by Council	...	0
Cesspools emptied by Council	...	71

Water closets in area	...	...	...	6,374
<i>Conversions :</i>				
Pail closets converted to water carriage system during the year	...	...	...	32

Public Health Act, 1936.

Section 75 (1). Dustbins.

The system of replacing defective dustbins is as follows:-

Defective bins are reported by refuse collectors. A post-card is then sent to the owner requesting replacement of defective bin. After lapse of reasonable time a Statutory Notice is served on the owner giving him 28 days in which to provide same. 3 Statutory Notices were served during the year and in every case legal proceedings were avoided.

The unsatisfactory containers, viz.: wash-tubs, oil-drums, etc. made their unwelcome appearance from time to time and such premises were visited and the substitute receptacle ultimately replaced.

227 New dustbins were provided at 73 private houses and 154 council houses. 35 Preliminary Notices and 3 Statutory Notices were served.

Complaints for 1958.

The following list has been extracted from the Complaints Book. Every complaint received is recorded and a visit and enquiry made into the circumstances. The Officer making the enquiries initials the Complaint Book accordingly.

Absence of damp-proof courses	...	4
eavesgutters	...	5
handrails	...	6
hot water boiler	...	2
proper paving	...	4
rainwater downspouts	...	1
sash cords	...	9
threshold strips	...	9
weatherboards	...	24
window furniture	...	1
Broken washbowls	...	3
Blocked grates	...	2
Burst pipes in w.c.'s	...	2
Choked drains	...	17
Dampness to houses	...	70
Dangerous boundary walls	...	2
Dangerous manhole covers	...	1

Carried forward 162

	<i>Brought forward</i>	162
Defective:		
airgrates	3
arms to W.C. cisterns	3
boilers	11
boiler lids	6
brickwork	16
brickwork to inspection chambers	1
ceiling plaster	53
cement fillets	6
cement rendering	7
chimney pots	6
chimney stacks	5
copper chimney stacks	5
doors	41
door frames	18
door furniture	6
door steps	1
drains	4
dustbins	5
eavesgutters	38
firebacks	8
firebars	2
firegrates	10
fireplaces	5
flashings	16
flashings to chimney stacks	15
floors	33
flues	5
jockey bars	3
midfeathers	5
ovens	8
oven plates	4
oven cheeks	5
overflow pipes	1
pan closet seats	2
paving	15
pointing	70
putty work to windows	18
rainwater downspouts	24
rising mains	11
roofs	85
ridge tiles to roof	4
sanitary pans	5
sash cords	29
sinks	3
sink waste pipes	12

Carried forward 795

	<i>Brought foward</i>	795
Defective : threshold strips	...	9
tile hearths	...	1
wall plaster	...	107
W.C. pedestals	...	13
W.C. pedestal joints	...	8
W.C. cisterns	...	11
W.C. seats	...	1
weights to sashcords	...	2
windows	...	57
window frames	...	9
window furniture	...	10
woodwork	...	9
mechanism to water tanks	...	4
Dilapidated coal houses	...	3
pan closet buildings	...	7
Dry rot	1
Woodworm	...	1
Flooded cellars	...	1
Flooded scullery	1
Dustbins not emptied	...	56
not returned	...	12
General defects	14
Leak in hot water system	...	1
Noise nuisances	1
Obnoxious smells	15
Pans not emptied	1
Sewage nuisances	8
Smoke nuisances	11
Salvage not collected	...	8
Vermin : ants	6
beetles	11
gnats	1
bugs	3
rats	51
mice	22
wasps' nests	6
frogs	1
Worms in vinegar	1
Wastage of water	3
Miscellaneous	22
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Total</i>		1,304

Notification of Defects, etc., to Surveyor.

Matters coming to my notice, either by observation or by complaint, requiring the attention of the Surveyor, were passed

on to him. These matters chiefly concerned Council house defects, water supply, sewers and sewage nuisances; 70 such instances are recorded in my day-book. We do everything possible to assist in inter-departmental co-operation.

Public Health Act, 1936.

Part 2 -- Sanitation and Buildings (Sections 14 - 90).

Sewerage Scheme for the District. As last year, very little progress has been made since the Inquiry held in 1957, due chiefly to the effects of mining subsidence in various parts of the urban area. 32 Pail closets were converted to water closets in 1958, the grant of £10 per conversion being paid in each case.

Sewage nuisances. Three sewage nuisances were referred to the Surveyor and were satisfactorily dealt with by him and the nuisances abated.

Cromford Canal, Golden Valley. It is pleasing to report that not one complaint was received of smell nuisance from the canal during the year. This is the first time for many years that such has been the case. In view of the fact that sink waste drainage from the property in Golden Valley is now conducted to cesspools, which are regularly emptied by the Council, we can now hope that such complaints are a thing of the past.

Public convenience, Nottingham Road, Somercotes. It is said that "running water wears away a stone." I have included an appeal to the Council in my Annual Report now for many years to abolish this unsatisfactory and badly sited public convenience and provide suitable and satisfactory accommodation in the garden on the Market Place at Somercotes. Since this appeal was first made, the population of Somercotes has grown considerably as one housing site has been completed and another commenced. In these circumstances, a centre of population such as Somercotes surely warrants and merits a public convenience, suitable and satisfactory in every way. The financial position which has been used as the excuse in the past is surely not now so acute. I ask the Council to re-consider this matter.

Filthy or Verminous Premises or Articles and Verminous Persons.

Only three cases of filthy and/or verminous houses came to my notice. These were reported to me by prospective and recent purchasers of houses in a terrace. One of these houses had been a source of continual worry owing to a filthy and verminous family residing in it for twenty-four years to my knowledge. During this entire period, constant supervision was necessary, and repeated disinfection by sulphur and liquid insecticides was necessary. In 1958, three members of the family passed away and the husband and children moved to another part of the urban district. In consequence, the houses were

offered for sale and the new owner discovered an infestation of bugs. An appeal for help was received by the department and after protracted correspondence, the previous owner of the property finally agreed to meet the cost of stoving all three houses.

Many infestations of cockroaches, ants, silverfish and wasps have been dealt with as requested, the occupiers paying the cost of materials used.

Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

I record my thanks to the Officer-in-Charge of the Infestation Branch of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for so readily identifying unusual specimens brought into the department by ratepayers.

On the 28th April a beetle simulating a death watch beetle was brought into the office. The beetle had been found in the small bedroom of a house owned by a church estate. On the following day a further specimen of Larvae was brought in. The specimens were sent to Forest Products Research Association, who identified the specimens as follows:-

Attagenus Pellio, a Domestidae suspected of feeding on carbohydrates. The tenant of the house had stated that sugar was stored in the spare bedroom in which the infestation occurred.

The second specimen proved to be the larvae of the clothes moth.

Nuisances. Part 3. Sections 91-110.

As required, systematic inspections of the district are carried out for the detection and abatement of nuisances. It will be noted that:

815 visits and inspections have been made, 1304 defects were noted and 10 legal notices were served.

The Clerk and I co-operate to obviate Court proceedings if at all possible; every opportunity being given to a defaulting owner or individual to carry out his or her obligations before legal proceedings are instituted.

Legal Proceedings were however taken under Public Health Act, 1936, in respect of housing defects and nuisances at:-

No. 31, Coupland Place, Somercotes,
and at

No. 50, Coupland Place, Somercotes.

The cases were heard at Alfreton Police Court on Wednesday, 9th July. The former case was adjourned for one month and the owner carried out the work.

In the second case, an Abatement Order was made for the work to be carried out within 14 days, the owner to pay costs. The work was duly completed within the terms of the order.

In two other cases legal proceedings were requested relating to two properties and the cases entered into Court before the nuisances were abated and proceedings withdrawn.

Smoke Nuisances.

Clean Air Act, 1956, and Public Health Act, 1936.

Smoke nuisances have been dealt with at the following premises :-

G. K. Tyresoles (Kennings Ltd.), George Street, Riddings, and Stanton Ironworks.

Messrs. Tyresoles called in N.I.F.E.S. for expert advice on how to operate their Rushton Shell Boiler with a Benis under-feed stoker. It was found that apart from the fact that the plant was not functioning properly, the class of fuel being used was unsatisfactory. This matter was taken up with the National Coal Board and a better class of fuel was acquired.

The smoke nuisance at Stanton Ironworks was in connection with a handfired Lancashire Boiler using washed doubles containing a high proportion of fines. A dust nuisance arose from the Cold Blast Cupola, but the management assert that the dust does not fall outside the perimeter of the works. Certificate of exemption was requested but was not granted by the Council until dust determination tests have been carried out and an assurance received from the Company that efforts are to be made to deal with dust and smoke problems. We await information re programme of improvements prior to 6th July, 1963, when all steps to augment the provisions of the Clean Air Act ought to have been carried out.

Clean Air Information Service.

I had the privilege of attending a revisional course in Smoke Abatement and the Principles of Combustion and Boiler House Practice at the Royal Society of Health held under the auspices of the Institute of Fuel in July and September. These were particularly interesting and instructive.

On my return I recommend that my Council become a contributing authority to the Clean Air Information Service and thus ensure that we keep ourselves up-to-date in all matters concerning the implementation of the Clean Air Act, 1956.

National Society for Clean Air.

The East Midlands Division, of which my Chairman is a member of the Executive Committee, has made every endeavour to encourage its contributing local authorities in the implementation of the Clean Air Act. All were asked to give an indication of their activities by means of a survey, and it was established that out of 210 authorities in the Division, only 12 had taken positive steps to establish smoke control areas. My Council are not favourably disposed towards the establishment

of Smoke Controlled Areas, not from apathy as suggested, but from a sense of duty to the mining industry which has been the foundation stone on which the livelihood and prosperity of this district has chiefly depended for almost a century.

The suggestions first, that new Council estates be smoke controlled from the planning stage, and secondly that a smoke controlled area based on the central area of the town, were both shelved, but the compromise was agreed to that such recommended solid fuel appliances be installed, which would enable bituminous coal to be burned as smokelessly as possible.

We have in this district other dust and grit problems arising from various industrial processes apart from colliery chimneys and burning spoilbanks. I refer to those arising from iron-foundering, flooring companies and chemical works. All have their various processes and resultant pollution problems to be tackled. The information and assistance obtained from a general discussion at divisional level and a visit to two or three industrial plants during the year is of great benefit to all concerned.

We met on three occasions during the year as follows :--

Leicester, 13th March, 1958. Addresses were given on the subject of Oil Fuel and its role in Smoke Control Areas by N. W. Shepherd, A.M.I.Gas, and A. Patterson, A.M.I.Mech.E.

Belper, 3rd July, 1958. A visit to Park Foundry where we saw the latest developments in Solid Fuel Appliances. Members' questions were afterwards dealt with by a Brains Trust composed of executive members of the firm.

Derby, 23rd October, 1958. We visited Leys Malleable Castings Co. Ltd. and were conducted over the works, where a large programme of reconstruction and modernisation was taking place. In the afternoon, the General Secretary of the Society gave an address on "Making the Clean Air Act Succeed."

The Society is doing a wonderful job of work in providing for contributing authorities information and advice, a library service, lectures and lecturers, lantern slides, films, exhibitions and exhibition material, posters, literature and photographic material. We had a year of steady progress in our efforts to reduce the amount of industrial and domestic atmospheric pollution, and we trust that the enthusiasm of the Chairman of Committee and your Officers on the subject of Clean Air will be transmitted to the Urban District as a whole.

*Department of Scientific and Industrial Research Station,
Greenwich.*

The advice of the experts was sought and suitable sites were decided upon for the establishment of our first Deposit Gauge and the Lead Peroxide Instrument for Sulphur Dioxide Deter-

mination. The former was set up in October and the latter in November. We hope during the coming year to install a volumetric smoke filter. The readings given at the end of next year will be of far greater interest. We also hope to become members of the Standing Joint Committee of Participating Authorities. Our samples are to be taken to the County Analyst's Department at Matlock for analysis. We are greatly indebted to Messrs. Burtons (Clothiers) for the privilege of using their roof space for siting our first Deposit Gauge.

The amount of the deposited matter is indicated below at the one station within the District and an estimation of the sulphur in the atmosphere determined by the Lead Peroxide Method:-

		BURTONS, HIGH STREET, ALFRETON			Firs Garden	
Month	No. of days	Rainfall (in inches)	DEPOSITED MATTER			SULPHUR Mg. of SO ₃ per day collected by 100 sq. cm. of Batch A Pb. O ₂
			Total Water Insoluble Matter (Tons per sq. mile)	Total Water Soluble Matter (Tons per sq. mile)	Total Solids (Tons per sq. mile)	
Oct. ...	31	2.59	5.89	3.85	9.74	—
Nov. ...	30	0.96	5.63	4.08	9.71	1.67
Dec. ...	31	3.33	6.80	6.45	13.03	1.65

Clean Air Act, 1956.

Alkali etc. Works Regulation Act, 1906.

We were informed by the Alkali Inspectorate in November 1958, of the works in our area which are registered under the Alkali etc. Works Regulation Act, 1906.

These provisions relate only to particular processes registered under the Act. Other works, processes or plant, e.g., boiler plant etc. at such works will be subject to the provisions of the Clean Air Act.

The works referred to are as follows :-

- The Stanton Ironworks
- The Midland Acid Co. Ltd.
- Milton Antiseptic Ltd.

New Publication "Clean Air for You."

Copies of the above booklet were purchased and sent to all the women's organisations in the area for distribution to their members. I feel it is most important to get the co-operation of the housewives in any campaign affecting the general welfare of society.

Offensive Trades. Section 107.

We have only one such establishment in this district, the premises owned by Mrs. S. Walters, George Street, Riddings. These premises are not being used at present owing to trade difficulties. As the premises are in a built-up area, the Council will probably consider the advisability of resisting any attempt to re-open the premises for this type of business. It has to be borne in mind that there is a hand-fired vertical cross-tube boiler for steam generation at these premises, and a serious smoke problem was solved when business was suspended.

Fried Fish and Chips.

I am quite proud of the high standard of these premises throughout the district. In Alfreton in particular we have two of the most up-to-date establishments to be found anywhere in the County.

The customary precautions were taken before giving authority for the registration and establishment of new premises at Mansfield Road, Alfreton, by Mr. P. Blakeman. All the latest equipment was provided and a high standard of hygiene was maintained throughout the year.

Water Supply. Sections 111-142.

Routine sampling of domestic water supplies is undertaken by the Surveyor's department, and any complaints received are immediately passed on to the Surveyor for investigation. I am not aware of any premises in the area not connected to the mains supply. Tradition, however, dies hard and it occasionally comes to our notice that a well or a spring is being used. Such a case was reported to us at Riddings, where spring water was discharging into a stone trough in a works yard, and this supply had been used for many years as drinking water in spite of the fact that the safe mains supply was available.

A sample was taken in the approved manner, after flaming the supply pipe, taking the necessary precautions, and forwarded to the laboratory. The sample was found to be unsatisfactory for drinking purposes, and the supply was accordingly sealed off.

Part 5. Prevention, Notification and Treatment of Infectious Diseases.

At the request of the Medical Officer of Health, 9 visits have been made to infected premises. A visit is paid, enquires made, and disinfection is carried out, following removal to hospital, or recovery of the patient.

A bottle of disinfectant is left for preliminary soaking of infected bedding and clothing prior to washing. The method of disinfection is by formaldehyde sprays. An instruction leaflet is left at the house as to precautions to be taken in cases

of infectious disease and to prevent the spread of infection. In certain instances, infected bedding, etc., is sent to Morton Isolation Hospital for steam disinfection.

Part 9. Common Lodging Houses. *Sections 235-248.*

There is only one common lodging house in the area. This is frequently visited and is well-kept by the owner, Mr. W. Davis, under his personal supervision. The rooms are clean, well ventilated, and the walls and ceilings are painted to facilitate cleansing at prescribed intervals. Cooking facilities and washing accommodation are satisfactory, all beds are clean and comfortable. No complaints were received during the year.

Watercourses, Ditches and Ponds.

Several complaints of pollution of ditches and streams were reported to the Surveyor for attention. Particular reference should be made to pollution of the brook at the rear of Hickton Road, Swanwick, from the sewer overflow at the rear of Swanwick Road, Leabrooks, and pollution of the brook near Hermitage Farm at Riddings, caused by seepage from Greenhill Lane Sewage Works. The provision of a satisfactory sewerage system is the answer, and an early commencement of work is anticipated.

Moveable Dwellings. *Sections 268-269.*

The caravan still has a great appeal to those unfortunate people who cannot acquire housing accommodation, and have no desire to live with the "in-laws."

Suitable sites for caravans are difficult to find in an urban area as they tend to reduce amenity, and are greatly objected to by owners of property adjacent to such sites. We do all we can to help and advise, but it is a very difficult problem indeed.

We have the following licensed sites in the district :-

W. H. Dawes site in Meadow Lane, Alfreton - six vans.

Farnsworth's site at Queen's Head Croft, Riddings

- six vans.

In addition, we have 6 vans on 5 unlicensed sites, making a total of 18 moveable dwellings on 7 sites.

Inspection of Offices (Workplaces).

6 Visits have been made to offices and workrooms. Once again our attention has been focussed on the provision of suitable, satisfactory and sufficient sanitary accommodation for the use of both sexes; also heating, lighting and general amenity.

Places of Public Entertainment.

Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1890, Section 51.

Circular 120, Ministry of Health.

12 Visits have been made to places of public entertainment. There are five cinemas in the district as follows:-

Odeon Theatre, Alfreton.
Empire Theatre, Alfreton.
Premier Theatre, Somercotes.
Empire Theatre, Somercotes } indefinitely
Regent Cinema, Riddings } closed.

Late in the year, the Empire Cinema, Somercotes was closed. The Regent Cinema, Riddings, has now been closed for several years and, owing to its disrepair, it is extremely unlikely that it will be re-opened.

There are four halls where public dances are held :--

Astoria Ballroom, Alfreton.
Drill Hall, Alfreton.
Somercotes Church Hall.
Leabrooks Miners' Welfare.

Occasional dances are also held in various schoolrooms in the area, and all are well suited for the purpose from all points of view. All places of entertainment have been well maintained during the year, and have been regularly and systematically inspected. The usual certificates have been issued to the theatre managers as to sanitary conditions of the premises prior to their application to the licensing justices for renewal of licences.

Licensed Premises.

There are 41 licensed premises in the urban area, situated as follows: Alfreton 18, Somercotes 8, Leabrooks 2, Swanwick 4, Ironville 1, Pye Bridge 1, Riddings 6, Golden Valley 1. Every effort has been made to raise the standard of accommodation provided and it has been my privilege to co-operate with the Police and Licensing Justices to this desirable end.

Laburnum Inn, Sleetmoor Lane, Somercotes. During the year, I made a detailed inspection of the Laburnum Inn, Sleetmoor Lane, Somercotes, following a report from the Police of bad housing accommodation. I was later requested to appear before the Licensing Justices at Brewster Sessions in February to give evidence. The Magistrates were considering the question of the withdrawal of the licence. The matter was deferred for one month and was subsequently referred to the Compensation Court at Derby, where I again appeared in July.

The Laburnum Inn was closed at the end of the year on the withdrawal of the licence. The Inn actually forms part of the old Workhouse built in 1801 on "Sleightmoor" as it was formerly known. The building is shown on the Inclosure Map and included in the records of that survey dated 8th January, 1824, by William Chrishop of Mansfield. Some time in the 1860's, the South Wing became the Laburnum Inn and the rest of the building was converted into five back to back cottages.

It is the intention of the Council to take early action to re-house the tenants of the property as a whole, and to clear

the site. On completion, a familiar landmark will disappear, and with it may we hope the use of the word "workhouse," which has such an unpleasant association with the "bad old days."

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests (Threshing and Dismantling) Regulations, 1950.

Rats and Mice Destruction Order, 1943, and Ministry of Food and Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Circulars.

As stated in previous reports, the department is responsible for a continuous effort to control the rodent and other pest nuisances in the district. 102 Complaints were received and the majority of these were from householders living near poultry keepers. Our tips are all worked by controlled tipping methods. Daily inspections are made of the tip and its surroundings and evidence of an infestation, however small, is quickly noticed and the necessary action taken. No legal action has been necessary.

I would like to record my appreciation of the co-operation of the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Nottingham, also to the Officials of the Pest Control Department of the Derbyshire Agricultural Executive Committee for their valuable assistance in dealing with complaints re rabbits and other pests under their control. I am also indebted to the latter for supplying information re persons holding contracts for rodent treatments at farms in this area. There is only one such contract at the moment, namely R. Hool, The Green Farm, Swanwick,

It is anticipated that Local Authorities may have to take over the responsibility for rodent destruction on farms as from 1st April next.

Sewer treatments were carried out twice during the year and all Council-owned property, i.e., sewage works, tips and depots, were given regular treatments. We received numerous complaints re wasps' nests from various parts of the district during the summer months. The efforts of the operator, Mr. T. A. Smith, always resulted in either digging out or otherwise removing the nest. The people usually gasp with amazement when they see the mass of dead wasps. "I couldn't have believed it if I hadn't seen it" is the customary phrase. Infestations of all types - ants, silver fish and the like, are all promptly dealt with.

The following work under this heading has been carried out by the Department :-

			First treatment	Second treatment
Alfreton	...	...	70	5
Somercotes	...	...	45	16

Pye Bridge	...	...	3	1
Swanwick	...	...	18	2
Riddings	...	...	22	6
Codnor Park	...	...	8	10
Golden Valley	...	...	7	—
			—	—
			173	40
	Total	...	213	

Sewage Works. All sewage works have been visited during the year and the following have received treatment:-

Alfreton	3	Riddings	6	Codnor Park	5
Somercotes	3	Swanwick	3	Birchwood	4
Highfields	3	Newlands	6	Pye Bridge	3

After treatment no further activity was noticeable.

195 Visits have been made to sewage works and Council premises and 76 treatments given; 306 visits were made to private dwellings and 135 treatments given; 81 visits were made to business premises and 34 treatments given.

Total number of visits made during the year:-

Sewer inspection chambers	...	213
Sewage works	...	195
Other visits, including farms during threshing operations	...	387
	—	—
Total	795	

Refuse tips and salvage depots are under constant observation.

Ricks Survey. Oats and Wheat. In September we assisted in a Rick Survey as follows:-

- White's, High Street, Swanwick.
- Seals', Lily Street Farm, Alfreton.
- Chestnut Farm, Sleetmoor Lane, Somercotes.
- Old Living Farm, Swanwick,
- Cross Keys Farm, Swanwick.

It is quite obvious that combined harvesting has had the effect of minimising the number of infestations on farm premises.

Housing Act, 1957.

During the year the following work has been carried out:-

Houses erected:		With state assistance			Total
		Unaided	Total		
(a) by local authority	—	16	16
(b) by other bodies and persons	—	42	42
<i>Houses under erection:</i>					
(a) by local authority	—	44	44
(b) by other bodies and persons	—	19	19

Inspection of dwelling houses :

Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) ...	149
Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	9
Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dan- gerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	24
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in con- sequence of action (formal or informal) by the local authority	44
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	24
Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	17
Number of persons displaced	55
Number of Hayes Villas demolished	6
Number of persons displaced	17
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertak- ings were accepted	1
Number of dwelling houses where undertakings have been accepted that have become empty	2
Number of persons displaced	9
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which under- takings were determined	0
Number of premises in respect of which closing orders were made	0
Number of applications for improvement grants approved by the Council (houses involved)	19
Number of dwelling houses improved during the year ...	44

Messrs. James Oakes & Co. (Riddings) Ltd.

The following works of improvement have been carried out during
the year by the estate department on property owned by the company:-

Tiled fireplaces ...	8
Hot-water systems ...	4
Combination cooking grates ...	3
Electrical Installations ...	5
Baths ...	5
Wash hand basins ...	5
Airing cupboard ...	1
W.C. conversions ...	2
Low-level W.C. suites ...	3

Rent Act, 1957.

Certificates of disrepair. 19 Applications were received for certificates of disrepair in respect of the following properties. In 9 instances, certificates of disrepair were issued and in the other 10

instances, the landlord gave an undertaking to carry out the necessary works of repair. One application was received for revocation of a certificate of disrepair on completion of the necessary work.

Petroleum Acts, 1871 - 1928.

Cellulose Solution Regulations, 1934

No. of licences issued to store petroleum during 1958	... 50
No. of licences issued to store carbide during 1958	... 1
Total storage capacity of petroleum spirit	... 60725
Total storage capacity of carbide of calcium	... 112 lb.
Fees collected in respect of petroleum licences	... £34
Fees collected in respect of carbide licences	... 5/-

Certificates were issued to the following :-

(1) to store up to 60 gallons of cellulose solutions :-

Mr. R. S. Dawes, Victoria Street, Somercotes.

Mr. T. Roguska, Peel's Yard, King Street, Alfreton.

G.K. Tyres Ltd., Riddings.

Charles Brown and Sons, Alfreton,

(2) to store up to 60 gallons of petroleum spirit :-

Messrs. James Oakes & Co. (Riddings) Ltd.

A licence to store 1,000 gallons of cellulose was issued to :

Remploy Ltd., Alfreton.

During the year new tanks were installed at the following premises:

G.K. Replacement Units, No. 2 Station, Chesterfield Road,
Alfreton.

Alfreton Park Estates Co. Ltd., Garage Yard, Alfreton.

Shakespeare, Simpson and Cook, New Birchwood,

Somercotes.

All underground tanks are subjected to an air pressure of 5 lbs. per sq. in. before approval. Chambers in 9 in. brickwork are insisted upon, and a minimum of 9 in. of sand surrounding the tank.

I am very pleased to report that the good offices of the Derbyshire Fire Services were offered to assist in making a complete survey of all petrol installations to observe potential fire risks, and to make recommendations where in the opinion of the Chief Fire Officer such risks existed. It was also suggested that a standard form of licence, survey sheet, etc., could be used throughout the County with advantage. I was in complete agreement with these suggestions and placed them before my Council with a recommendation that they be accepted.

We hope to have the survey completed by the end of the year and any suggestions received from the Chief Fire Officer so far as fire risk is concerned will be brought to the notice of the owners or occupiers of such petroleum installations in the district.

In spite of the fact that application forms are despatched to all occupiers of premises early in November each year, with a request that they be returned prior to the December meeting of the Council, there are always the few who fail to do so. It was decided to send

a warning letter to those who were not in possession of a licence in the New Year. I hope this action will have the desired effect next year.

Factories Act, 1937 and 1948

Certificates as to adequacy of means of escape in case of fire were issued to the following in respect of their factories:—

Messrs. Everlastics Ltd., Nottingham Rd., Somercotes.

Messrs Ripley Metalcraft Ltd., Nottingham Rd., Somercotes.

Messrs. S. Taylor & Co. (Hucknall) Ltd., High St., Alfreton.

Messrs. Power (Somercotes) Ltd., Nottingham Rd., Somercotes.

Messrs. Alfreton Knitting Mills Ltd., Nottingham Rd., Alfreton.

The Surveyor co-operates with the department by submitting to me all plans in respect of factories for my perusal and observations, prior to planning permission being granted. The system works very satisfactorily.

Deletions from and additions to the list of Factories and Work-places noted by H.M. Inspector of Factories reported to me on Form 143 under the Factories Act, 1937, Section 8(3), are duly recorded and the register kept up to date at all times.

Register of Factories, 31.12.57.

Aerated Water	...	1	Laundry	...	...	1
Bakeries	...	7	Leather dressing	...	1	
Boots	...	1	Letter printing	...	3	
Boot repairs	...	5	Machine repairs	...	1	
Bicycle repairs	...	1	Metal scrap cutting	...	2	
Brickmaking	...	1	Metal scrap, paper sorting	1		
Builders' supplies	...	1	Motor vehicle repairs	15		
Chemicals	...	2	Net mending	...	1	
Concrete blocks	...	1	Sausage, meat pies etc.	8		
Corsets	...	1	Sheet metal work	...	1	
Dresses	...	2	Subsidiary companies:—			
Electrical repairs	...	2	Miscellaneous dept.	...	1	
Engineering	...	7	Oxygen dept.	...	1	
Flooring	...	2	Tyre remoulds	...	1	
Gas	...	2	Underwear	...	3	
Hosiery	...	3	Vehicle demolition	...	3	
Ironfounding	...	1	Vehicle painting and			
Iron rolling mills	...	1	cellulosizing	1		
Joinery	...	10	Wagon building	...	1	
Ladies' outwear	...	1	Woodworking machinery	1		
			Total	98		

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

*Part 1. General provisions and sale of food and drugs.
Sections 1-7.*

Sampling of food and drugs is undertaken by the County Analyst as the Food and Drugs Authority. Mr. R. W. Sutton, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.,

F.C.S., the County Analyst, has kindly supplied me with information of such work carried out by his department as follows:-

"82 Samples, including 41 Milks, were taken under the above Act in the area of the Alfreton Urban District Council during the year 1958.

No serious irregularities were disclosed and no proceedings taken.

A sample of fish paste carried an unsatisfactory label. Representations were made to the manufacturers who agreed to have the label amended to comply with the requirements of the Labelling of Food Order.

Canned prunes in syrup contained 240 parts per million of tin as against the recommended limit of 250 parts per million and further cans from the same stock were examined. These all contained objectionable amounts of tin and the remainder of the stock was surrendered for destruction.

The remaining samples were classed as genuine.

A one-third pint bottle of milk supplied to a School was received from your Authority with a request for identification of a smear of foreign material attached to the inside of the bottle. The amount was too small for chemical analysis and microscopical examination was inconclusive but showed a few small black particles such as could have been derived from the presence of a proportion of ordinary atmospheric dust containing soot."

Voluntary Surrender of Unsound Food.

Sections 8-12.

All condemned food excepting meat is taken to the Council's Depot at Leabrooks where it is satisfactorily disposed of.

The following is a list of foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered by traders during the year :-

	Condemned Food.		lbs.	ozs.
38 tins	Pears	...	58	0
13 ,,	Oranges	...	8	3
35 ,,	Pineapple	...	31	6
62 ,,	Peaches	..	50	15½
3 ,,	Cherries	...	2	11
6 ,,	Plums	...	16	0
51 ,,	Fruit Salad	...	43	4½
40 ,,	Apricots	...	57	6
1 tin	Grapes	...		12
1 ,,	Cranberries	...		15½
1 ,,	Damsons	...	1	0
1 ,,	Apricot Conserve	...	2	0
2 tins	Grapefruit	...	2	14
2 ,,	Raspberries	...	2	0

Carried forward 277 7½

		lbs.	ozs.
	<i>Brought forward</i>	277	$7\frac{1}{2}$
1 jar	Strawberry Jam ...	...	2 0
38 tins	Evaporated Milk	...	20 $10\frac{1}{2}$
3 „	Cream	...	12
1 tin	Skimmed Milk ...	...	1 0
1 „	Creamed Rice ...	...	1 0
1 „	Syrup	...	2 0
13 tins	Pilchards	...	9 2
2 „	Tuna	...	8
6 „	Sild	...	9
4 „	Crab	...	1 14
58 „	Salmon	...	28 $6\frac{3}{4}$
1 tin	Herrings	...	8
1 „	Sardines	...	$4\frac{1}{2}$
1 „	Minced Chicken ...	...	2
1 „	Corned Mutton ...	...	6 0
1 „	Duck	...	3 0
1 „	Cooked Shoulder	...	9 10
17 tins	Tongue	...	60 $6\frac{1}{2}$
9 „	Ham	...	106 14
30 „	Luncheon Meat ...	...	38 8
35 „	Steak	...	33 14
36 „	Corned Beef	...	91 4
5 „	Pork	...	3 2
2 „	Spam	...	1 8
6 „	Carrots	...	6 0
8 „	Beans	...	5 $4\frac{1}{2}$
8 „	Peas	...	7 $13\frac{1}{2}$
115 „	Tomatoes	...	160 $3\frac{1}{2}$
1 tin	Macaroni	...	$15\frac{1}{2}$
2 pkts.	Macaroni	...	12
3 tins	Vegetable Soup ...	...	3 $0\frac{1}{2}$
1 tin	Ox Tail Soup	...	$10\frac{1}{2}$
1 „	Chicken Soup	...	8
1 „	Tomato Juice	...	$15\frac{1}{2}$
4 jars	„	...	1 8
3 „	Radishes	...	1 8
1 jar	Meat Paste	...	$1\frac{1}{4}$
1 „	Rainbow Trout	...	4
1 tin	Beer	...	1 0
1 „	Kit-E-Kat	...	8
1 „	Calves' Tongues...	...	12
1 „	Baby Food	...	$4\frac{1}{2}$
1 „	Dog Food	...	1 0
2 tins	Coffee	...	8
<i>Carried forward</i>		<hr/>	<hr/>
		891	$7\frac{1}{2}$

	<i>Brought forward</i>	lbs.	ozs.
1 pkt. Crisps	1½
2 pkts. Salt	2 0
3 boxes Chocolates	1 8
6 „ Chicory	60 0
24 cartons Cheese Spread	...	9	0
Cheese	...	158	0
Cheese trimmings	...	12	0
Danish pigs' kidneys (frozen)	...	28	0
Cooked shoulder	...	12	13
Cooked ham	...	18	6
Beef	...	318	8
Pork	...	8	0
Ox tongue	...	2	6
Sausage	...	32	0
1 Set ox lungs	...	12	0
Cow offals	...	22	0
1 Portion carcase mutton	...	13	0
1 Calf's pluck	...	4	0
1 Pig's pluck	...	6	0
6 Sheep's plucks	...	26	0
59 Beasts' skirts	...	113	0
17½ Beasts' livers	...	261	0
5 Ox tails	10	0
8 Beasts' heads (5 minus tongues) ...	274	0	
1 Beasts' heart	...	6	0
3 pkts. Skinless beef	...	2	4
38 bags Brussels sprouts	...	380	0
Dried peas	...	1	0
Butter	...	1	8
Margarine	...	1	0
Cake	...	2	0
<hr/>			
Total	2,691	6½	

I am again pleased to report that no seizures of diseased meat or other food have been necessary during the year. I am quite confident that none of my tradespeople would wish to have diseased or unsound food on their premises. The day of the "screw" meat dealer has happily passed.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

Dogs in Food Shops.

Improvements continued to be carried out to food shops in many parts of the district. A clean food consciousness is becoming very noticeable in the general public. Some shop-keepers are providing hooks onto which leashes can be attached whilst a customer is in

the shop. Routine inspections are carried out and the following food premises have been improved during the year:-

Lenton's, King Street, Alfreton.
Cox's, High Street, Alfreton.
Hill's Cafe, High Street, Alfreton.
Buxton's, High Street, Alfreton.
Green's, Fruit, High Street, Alfreton.
Green's, Grocery and Provisions, High Street, Alfreton.
Handy Cafe, Grange Street, Alfreton.
Ingram's, High Street, Riddings.
Greasley's, Frederick Street, Riddings.
Abbott's, The Green, Swanwick.
Whysall's, Pentrich Road, Swanwick.

Extraneous Matter in Food.

On Tuesday, 11th March, a quarter pound of coconut mushrooms was sold to a person. On examination, these were found to be coated with dust. They were brought to me for inspection. I took the sweets to the shop and warned the shop-keeper that he would be reported, and took a statement from him. The sweets sold were the last of the stock he held. I afterwards took them to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and report, which was as follows:-

"Microscopical examination of scraping taken from external surface of sweets (physical dirt), showed the presence of spore-bearing organisms, Gram positive bacilli and Gram negative bacilli."

"Plate count.

No. of viable colonies developing on agar-agar after 48 hours incubation at 37° C. - NIL.

No. of viable colonies developing on agar-agar after 72 hours incubation at 22° C. - NIL.

NO coliform organisms were found after 48 hours incubation at 37° C.

The absence of bacterial growth is probably due to the concentration of sugar present in the sweets."

On Thursday, 17th April, a shop-keeper sold a packet of pudding mixture which on examination was affected by mites. The packet was old stock and the customer had been served by a young female assistant who had not examined the packet before handing it over. A letter of explanation and apology was received from the firm, which incidentally was one of repute.

In both cases, a very severe warning was issued to the offenders and the Clerk of the Council was instructed to write to the parties concerned.

Arising out of these cases a general circular was sent to all food traders as follows:-

"Dear Sir/Madam,

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.
Open Food for Immediate Consumption.

I have been instructed by my Council to draw your attention to the Provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 and in particular to the Provisions of Section 8:-

'Part III.

Requirements Relating to Persons engaged in the Handling of Food.

Food to be protected from risk of contamination.

8. A person who engages in the Handling of food shall while so engaged take all such steps as may be reasonably necessary to protect the food from risk of contamination, and in particular (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) :

- (a) shall not so place the food, or permit it to be so placed, as to involve any risk of contamination ;
- (b) shall not in or about any forecourt, yard, market or stall place any food lower than eighteen inches from the ground unless it is adequately protected by other means from risk of contamination ;
- (c) shall comply with the requirements of the next three following regulations '

Open food and in particular sweets and confectionery exposed for sale on open trays for any length of time are especially likely to be contaminated by the settlement of atmospheric dust from the floor sweepings, etc. Any food so contaminated may be seized and the matter reported to the Public Health Committee for action to be taken against a food trader.

You are therefore warned against the danger of exposing open food for immediate consumption, and to ensure that such food is adequately protected.

Yours faithfully,
E. MERCER,
Chief Public Health Inspector."

Alfreton Market.

Regular inspections are made by my colleague and I of the food stalls on the open market in Institute Lane. In the main the stall-holders are co-operative and only sweets, confectionery, fish, fruit and vegetables are sold. The Council made a very wise decision in excluding meat stalls from the market after the war, one which we have never had cause to regret.

I would like the Council to consider the inclusion of toilet facilities on the Market site as soon as financial considerations permit, as it is a cause for regret that such an up-to-date market as ours should not include toilet facilities for stall-holders.

Butchers' Shops and Making-up Places.

We have every reason to be proud of the conditions under which our butchers prepare their made-up foods. All, I am happy to say, have either re-built their making-up places or have altered and adapted them to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Food Hawkers.

This is one aspect of food trading about which I have some disquiet. I was hoping that together with my colleagues we could decide on some uniformity of action in the County. Several colleagues met at Ripley some time ago, but since that time we have all been so busy bringing food establishments up to date that we have not yet been able to tackle the problem of Hawkers of Food.

So far as this district is concerned, this is our next problem and we have to consider how far we can go under the powers of the Food Hygiene Regulations. The standard has been set for us I think by some of the Co-operative Societies who have modern vehicles provided with washing facilities, and our efforts must be concentrated on making this type of mobile shop the rule rather than the exception.

Licensed Premises.

All licensed premises were visited and inspected as a matter of routine and every effort is made to induce all licensees to provide facilities for the provision of light refreshments for those travellers or customers who desire the service, and whenever contact is made with a licensee, this point of view is put over and every effort is made to induce him or her to put in such facilities in the most hygienic yet economical manner.

From time to time expressions of the desires of the Justices for ideal conditions in licensed houses are made at Brewster Sessions, and such expressions are duly noted. If the department can co-operate in any way, we are most anxious to do so.

Ice Cream (heat treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 - 1952.

All premises in which ice cream is manufactured, stored and sold have been subjected to regular inspection. Ice cream parlours are provided where loose ice cream is sold. All conservators from which ice cream is sold are provided with Stowell protective covers to prevent misuse of the conservators and possible contamination. All premises registered must be suitably lighted and ventilated, and have satisfactory washing facilities, hot and cold water, clean towels and soap available. Manufacturers' premises in the area are most up-to-date and their products are manufactured under hygienic conditions.

During the year, five food traders applied for registration of their premises for the sale of ice cream as follows :-

Mrs. D. Carlin, Handy Cafe, Grange Street, Alfreton.
 Mr. J. Allsop, 32, The Green, Swanwick.
 Mrs. A. Booth, 188, King Street, Alfreton.
 The Butterley Co. Ltd., Steelworks Canteen, Codnor Park.
 Mr. S. Fletcher, 53, King Street, Alfreton.

The following are the details of registration under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:-

Manufacturers (also registered for the sale of loose ice cream)	3
Retailers for the sale of pre-packed ice cream ...	73

Milk Supply.

Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1934-1946.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-1954.

Supplementary licences were granted by the Council to dealers retailing milk in the Alfreton Urban Area but with dairy premises outside the Urban Area as follows:-

Pasteurised Milk.

Ripley Co-operative Society Ltd. (five branches)
 Codnor Park & Ironville Co-op. Society Ltd. (two branches)
 G. Paley, Sandham Park Dairy, Ripley
 E. Chamberlain, Felley Priory Farm, Underwood
 S. Stafford, Garner Lane Farm, South Wingfield
 A. Robinson, Devonshire Arms, South Normanton

Tuberculin tested / pasteurised.

Ripley Co-operative Society Ltd. (five branches)
 Codnor Park & Ironville Co-op. Society Ltd. (two branches)
 G. Paley, Sandham Park Dairy, Ripley
 E. Chamberlain, Felley Priory Farm, Underwood
 S. Stafford, Garner Lane Farm, South Wingfield
 A. Robinson, Devonshire Arms, South Normanton

Dealers' licences have been granted to use the special designation tuberculin tested/ pasteurised to :-

R. G. Bacon, c/o Radford's Farm, Alfreton
 J. B. & M. A. Bowler, Tagg Farm, Swanwick
 Miss S. Cowley, 9 Nuttall Street, Alfreton
 S. Durow & Son, Grange Farm, Butterley
 Mr. D. E. Nicholson, c/o Hermitage Farm, Riddings
 Mr. A. B. Key, 93 Swanwick Road, Leabrooks
 Mr. C. E. Smith, "The Farm," Pennytown, Somercotes
 Mr. C. Radford, "Brunn," Grange Street, Alfreton
 Mr. H. B. Unwin, "Red Lion" Farm, Riddings

Mr. W. Atkin, "Crossing" Farm, Leabrooks
Mr. B. Aldred, 24 Lower Somercotes
Mr. A. A. Brown, "The Gate" Inn, Nottingham Road, Alfreton
Mr. S. Dean, Laburnum Cottage, Leabrooks
Mr. C. S. Hall, The Bungalow, Sleetmoor Lane, Somercotes
Mr. J. E. Gash, 52 West Street, Riddings
Mr. L. Oliver, "Eureka," Brenden Avenue, Somercotes
Mr. W. R. Ward, Old Hall Farm, Swanwick
Mr. A. E. Jennings, 9 Derby Road, Alfreton [Somercotes]
Mr. J. A. Castledine, "Beau Vista," 20 Brenden Avenue,
Mr. L. W. Fisher, 19 Bank Street, Somercotes
Mr. S. Barlow, "Charity Farm," Swanwick
Mr. R. Ingram, "The Croft," Park Street, Alfreton
Mr. F. Clough, "The Croft," Park Street, Alfreton
Mr. N. E. Bryan, "Longacres," Sleetmoor Lane, Somercotes
Mr. P. M. Swindell, 9 Victoria Street, Somercotes
Mr. J. Bonsall, "Linroyd," Leabrooks

I regret that owing to heavy commitments in respect of meat inspection, it has been impossible to attend to the taking of milk samples. This entails being out in the early morning and one cannot be out late on meat inspection and be expected to be up early in the morning on milk sampling. That can only be done by increasing staff. However, my colleagues in adjoining areas, some of whom have little meat inspection in comparison, are taking samples of pasteurised milk as the dairies are in their areas. I am concerned that I am unable in present circumstances to take regular samples of the producer retailed milk being sold, but the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food promised in 1948 that within four years, by the end of 1952, we could expect to have an all-bottled milk supply. Alfreton Urban District has not yet been made a "prescribed area."

*Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, Part IX,
Sec. 26 (1)*

T.T./Pasteurised Milk.

Dirty Bottle.

On the 13th November, 1958 an investigation was made into a complaint of dirt inside a bottle of T.T./Pasteurised Milk, supplied that day by a Dairy Company to the customer. The inside of the bottle appeared to be contaminated by a substance simulating coal dust, the seal of the bottle being intact. The matter was reported to the Public Health Committee who were of the opinion that the contamination was due to insufficient cleansing, and it was resolved that Legal Proceedings be taken, and the case was entered into Court for hearing on the 7th January, 1959.

Meat Inspection.

Food and Drugs, Act, 1955.

Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.

Model Byelaws for Private Slaughterhouses.

The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958.

Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.

The Slaughter of Pigs (Anæsthesia) Regulations, 1958.

Public Health Meat Regulations, 1924 - 1952.

Memo 3 Meat. Ministry of Food Circular 5/48. C. Bovis.

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 - 1954

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Circular F.S.H.2/57. 11th April, 1957.

Exchequer Grants towards the cost of Meat Inspection

Despite interferences with leisure and home comforts due to the fact that an ever increasing number of animals are passing through the abattoir at Swanwick, the meat inspection service has been maintained, necessitating evening and week-end work. One cannot neglect this service, but I do not think any other profession would carry out this work under similar conditions of service. It has been maintained now for nearly four years without any real effort being made by those in authority to regulate the hours of slaughter, or to give to us some adequate compensation for the inconvenience and arduous work we are required to perform. As a result of the additional work in dealing with "export" meat, my Council received the following grant from the Ministry:-

No. of slaughter-houses (including bacon factories)

(a) private 13 (b) public Nil.

(a) Number of officers engaged in meat inspection

(i) whole-time Nil. (ii) part-time 2.

(b) Number with veterinary qualification Nil.

(c) Number holding R.S.H. Certificate for meat and other food 2.

(d) Number with other qualifications Nil.

<i>Total Carcasses inspected</i>	<i>Units inspected</i>	<i>Units</i>
(a) Cattle 4015	(No. of cattle x 10)	40150
(b) Calves 123	(No. of calves x 3)	369
(c) Pigs 9578	(No. of pigs x 3)	28734
(d) Sheep 8668	(No. of sheep x 2)	17336
22384	Total	86589

Population.

(As at June, 1957)

23,680.

Datum Figure.

(Population x 1.5)

per cap figure) 35,520

Export Figure.

(Item 6 minus item 8) 51,069

Cost of inspecting export meat.

(Item 9 x 2 pence)	£	s.	d.
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(Item 9 x 2 pence)	£	s.	d.
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(Item 9 x 2 pence)	£	s.	d.
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(Item 9 x 2 pence)	£	s.	d.
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(Item 9 x 2 pence)	£	s.	d.
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Amount of any contributions towards cost of meat inspection received from private firms Nil.

Give here also name and address of firms Nil.

The following details co-relate with those given last year to enable a comparison to be made. There is not likely to be any diminution in the number of animals slaughtered; the tendency in the future, I fear, is towards an increase.

Meat inspection out of normal working hours. It will be quite obvious to any thinking person, after perusing the statistical tables given below that every effort has been made by the department to carry out and maintain an efficient meat inspection service:-

		Animals Killed and Inspected					
		Beasts	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Total	
Alfreton	1	...	4	-	422	128	554
	2	..	158	4	740	229	1131
	3	...	-	-	-	-	-
	4	...	50	-	2	-	52
	5	...	-	-	-	-	-
Somercotes	7	...	-	-	124	112	236
Leabrooks	8	...	329	2	566	841	1738
Riddings	9	...	-	-	-	-	-
	10	...	91	-	-	358	449
	11	...	47	-	5	166	218
Swanwick	12	...	3758	98	6901	6324	17081
	13	...	92	-	38	222	352
	14	...	-	-	-	-	-
	Total		4529	104	8798	8380	21811

The following number of animals have been inspected during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1958.

Beasts	...	4529
Calves	...	104
Pigs	...	8798
Sheep	...	8380
		21811

During this period the total weight of meat and offal condemned amounted to 14 tons 6 cwts. 0 qrs. 25 lbs. made up of the following :

Beasts :

Tuberculosis

- 9 Carcasses and all Offals - Generalised T.B.
- 6 Forequarters
- 14 Strippings
- 20 Spleens
- 19 Skirts
- 11 Hearts
- 32 Mesenterys
- 134 Heads
- 246 Lungs
- 59 Livers
- 5 Udders
- 2 Kidneys
- 2 Stomachs and Fats

Other Diseases

- 1 Carcase and all Offals - Chronic Emaciation
- 1 Carcase and all Offals - Abnormal Odour
- 3 Carcasses and all Offals - Septicaemia
- 1 Shin and Shoulder - Bruised Beef
- 4 Portions Carcase Meat - Bruising
- 1 Portion Carcase Meat - Inflammation
- 1 Portion Carcase Meat - Blood Tumour
- 1 Portion Carcase Meat - Broken Leg
- 1 Set Offals - Pleurisy
- 12 Sets Offals (Lungs, Heart, Spleen, Skirt) - Cysticercus Bovis (Carcases to Cold Store)

Heads

- 13 Cysticercus Bovis (Carcases to Cold Store)
- 16 Actinomycosis
- 3 Abscesses

Lungs

- 1 Congestion
- 1 Pneumonia
- 3 Flukes
- 1 Abscess
- 3 Melanosis
- 5 Hydatid Cysts

Hearts

- 1 Fatty Degeneration
- 2 Cysticercus Bovis (Carcase and Head to Cold Store)

Livers

- 1 Neoplasms
- 5 Hydatid Cysts
- 137 Abscesses
 - 1 Abscess and Angioma
- 32 Angioma
 - 4 Fatty Degeneration
 - 1 Melanosis
- 246½ Cirrhosis

(Portions) 67 Cirrhosis

- 1 Infarcts

Udders

- 47 Mastitis

Kidneys and Fat

- 1 Abscess

Spleens

- 1 Tumour
- 1 Inflammation

Skirts

- 1 Inflammation

Stomachs

- 1 Abscess

Sheep :

[Emaciation

- 1 Carcase and all Offals - Pyæmic Abscesses and
- 2 Carcasses and all Offals - Emaciation
- 1 Carcase and all Offals - Pyæmia
- 3 Carcasses and all Offals - Casualty (Natural Death)
- 1 Carcase and all Offals - Suffocation
- 1 Carcase and all Offals - Oedema
- 1 Portion Carcase Mutton - Bruising
- 1 Portion Carcase Mutton - Blood Splashes
- 2 Portions Carcase Mutton - Abscess and Pleurisy

Plucks

- 29 Strongyli
- 7 Fatty Degeneration
- 3 Decomposition
- 2 Cirrhosis
- 13 Hydatid Cysts

Livers

- 6 Flukes and Cirrhosis
- 28½ Strongyli
- 6½ Cirrhosis
- 1 Hydatid Cysts

Lungs (Sets)

- 7 Strongyli

Pigs

Tuberculosis

- 1 Carcase and all Offals
- 2 Forequarters
- 107 Heads
- 52 Plucks

Other Diseases

- 2 Carcasses and all Offals - Septicæmia
- 3 Carcasses and all Offals - Erysipelas
- 1 Carcase Meat - Split Aitch
- 1 Carcase Meat - Neoplasm
- 7 Carcase Meat - Bruising
- 2 Carcase Meat - Abscess
- 1 Set Offals - Pleurisy and Peritonitis
- 2 Leg Pork - Bruising
- 1 Carcase Meat - Broken Leg
- 1 Trimmings - Contamination

Heads

- 3 Abscesses

Plucks

- 10 Pleurisy
- 5 Pleurisy and Pneumonia
- 12 Pleurisy and Cirrhosis
- 1 Abscess
- 5 Cirrhosis and Pneumonia
- 1 Contamination
- 2 Atrophy
- 1 Congestion and Pericarditis

Livers

- 6 Cirrhosis

Lungs (Sets)

- 14 Pneumonia
- 14 Pleurisy

Intestines (Sets)

- 1 Abscess

Udders

- 2 Strippings

The following particulars relating to the above are asked for by the Ministry of Health Circular 17/55 dated 23rd November, 1955 :

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	<i>Cattle, excluding Cows</i>		<i>Sheep and Calves</i>		<i>Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
	Cows	Cows	Calves			
Number killed	570	3959	104	8380	8798
Number inspected	...	570	3959	104	8380	8798

<i>All diseases except T.B.:</i>						
Whole carcases condemned...	Nil	5	Nil	9	5	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	40	580	Nil	108	96	
Percentage of the number inspected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	7.01%	14.63%	Nil	1.39%	1.14%	
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>						
Whole carcases condemned...	Nil	9	Nil	Nil	1	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	24	520	Nil	Nil	161	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	4.21%	13.36%	Nil	Nil	1.84%	
<i>No. of occasions overtime necessary at week-ends during the year 1958.</i>						
	<i>Saturday afternoon</i>	<i>Saturday evening</i>		<i>Sunday</i>		
	<i>Occurrences</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Occurrences</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Occurrences</i>	<i>Hours</i>
E. Mercer <i>(Unpaid)</i>	... 24	20 $\frac{3}{4}$	24	24	25	25 $\frac{1}{4}$
G. T. Hayes <i>(Paid)</i> <i>(Unpaid)</i>	... 22	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	26	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	26	26 $\frac{1}{4}$
	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	1	$\frac{3}{4}$
	<i>Week-end overtime worked, hours</i>		<i>Other time worked, hours</i>		<i>Total hours</i>	
E. Mercer <i>(Unpaid)</i>	... 70		86		156	
G. T. Hayes <i>(Paid)</i> <i>(Unpaid)</i>	... 64 $\frac{1}{2}$		35 $\frac{1}{2}$		100	
	1 $\frac{1}{4}$		23 $\frac{1}{2}$		24 $\frac{3}{4}$	
						<hr/>
						280 $\frac{3}{4}$

Cysticercus Bovis.

The incidence of Cysticercosis remains about the same. 15 Cases were detected in 1958 and the cold storage facilities used were Chesterfield, Sheffield or Derby. It is our custom to inspect the certificate issued by the Manager of the receiving Cold Storage Depot and record the date and the number of the same. The majority of the carcases affected were heifers having only erupted two teeth.

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 - 1954.

Slaughter of Animals Act (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1954.

Slaughter of Animals (Pigs) Act, 1954.

C.M.A. 243 Minimum Standards of Construction.

Lay-out and Equipment of Slaughterhouses in England and Wales Act, 1957.

Circular No. 45/57, 29th August, 1957. Improvement Grants.

41 Licences have been issued to slaughtermen in this district. All trainees are tested in their skill in the use of a mechanically-operated instrument before a licence is issued to them. In addition

to Captive Bolts there are now two electric lethal instruments in use, at the premises of the Fatstock Marketing Corporation, Swanwick, and Mr. O. P. Taylor, Leabrooks.

Of the 13 private slaughterhouses licensed after decontrol, four had gone out of use by the end of the year, and owners are buying meat "off the hook". It is quite obvious that the needs of this area can be more than adequately dealt with at the abattoir premises now owned by the Fatstock Marketing Corporation at Swanwick.

Meat Transport.

The wholesaling of meat is carried on by the Fatstock Marketing Corporation, and the most up-to-date vehicles are used for this purpose. Meat is similarly transported to some butchers in this district from wholesale premises in the adjoining rural district and from Chesterfield Abattoir.

Condemned Meat.

Circular M F 21/53, 2nd December, 1953.

Circular M F 10/54, 29th June, 1954.

The above circulars impress upon local authorities the importance of ensuring the safe disposal of condemned meat (which incidentally emphasises the importance of meat inspection itself). We have continued our policy of enabling the individual butcher to recover some of his loss by disposing of his condemned meat to either the Mansfield Hide and Skin Co. Ltd., Messrs. Bitterlings of Nottingham, Messrs. Churchmans of Mansfield Woodhouse or Barlows of Denby. Our system is to slash and stain with acid green stain, all carcase meat and offals. We are thus assured of satisfactory disposal of all such meat, and no possibility of it being used for human consumption.

Knackers' Yards.

Cat and Dog Meat Shops.

There are no knackers' yards in the area, but there are two in the adjoining rural district, one of which is delivering cat and dog meat to an establishment in this area. These premises are kept under constant supervision to ensure that all meat sold has been previously treated with naphthalene green to minimise the risk of the diseased meat being sold for human consumption.

The Shops Act, 1912-34-36-50.

The Shops Regulations, 1912-13-37-39.

The Young Persons (Employment) Act and Order, 1938.

As Officer appointed under the Shops Act, I have to report that steady progress has been maintained throughout the year. The conditions under which shop assistants and others work in this area, in my opinion, bears favourable comparison with any other area in the country. Attention is given to the various matters affecting the comfort and welfare of the assistants, including seats for females, rest rooms if possible, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, heating, lighting, ventilation and general cleanliness of premises. Food Shops in particular are frequently visited.

During the year a total of 539 visits have been made to shop premises. Warnings have been given with regard to selling after hours, and of being open on the regular early closing day for the sale of articles other than those prescribed.

The following details have been extracted from the register of shops:-

	<i>Canteens and Cafes</i>	<i>Food Shops</i>	<i>Other Premises</i>	<i>Total</i>
Alfreton ...	... 20	91	128	239
Somercotes ...	... 6	70	51	127
Leabrooks ...	... -	13	15	28
Riddings ...	... 5	32	25	62
Swanwick ...	... 4	22	15	41
Pye Bridge ...	... 1	4	4	9
Ironville and Codnor Park	2	14	10	26
Golden Valley ...	-	3	-	3
	38	249	248	535

The Public Cleansing Service.

The financial details relating to this service cover for the year ending 31st March, 1959. The figures have been checked against the books kept by the Council's Financial Officer. Every possible economy has been effected consistent with the maintenance of an efficient service.

Staff.

The staff of the public cleansing department is as follows:-

<i>Refuse collection</i>	<i>Depot</i>
3 Motor drivers (no spare at the moment)	1 Working foreman 1 Man part time
9 Loaders	<i>Salvage</i>
4 Wheelers out	2 Men baling paper and textiles
4 Bin Lads	
<i>Refuse disposal</i>	<i>Rats and Mice destruction</i>
1 Driver - muledozer	1 Man part-time
2 Men, tip face	<i>Spare</i>
<i>Nightsoil collection and disposal</i>	3 Men (house refuse collection, salvage, rodent control) (holidays and sickness)
1 Driver	
3 Loaders	

As in the previous year, in spite of difficulties occasioned by the sickness scheme, avoidable and unavoidable absenteeism, we managed to maintain the service. People in this district have become accustomed to the regular weekly service at as near as possible the same time every week. This objective is desirable from every point of view. It avoids nuisances and complaints, and the possibility of finding gates, etc., locked against us, particularly where dangerous dogs are concerned.

We are still experiencing difficulty in retaining the services of our best workmen.

The number of hours lost owing to sickness and other absenteeism is a matter of grave concern to my Council and for information the figures are quoted below:-

	<i>Total hours lost</i>
1953	... 7,958
1954	... 7,083
1955	... 9,862
1956	... 5,985
1957	... 8,407
1958	... 8,853

Protective Clothing. As in the previous year all workmen have been provided with two suits of overalls and one pair of protective gloves. Reinforced gloves are provided for handling baled destructor scrap, etc.

Buildings and Plant.

New Paper Baling Shed. The erection of two huts on a 4' 6" brick base has provided us with an excellent paper baling shed, sufficiently large (36' x 34' x 13' 6") to house the two electric paper baling machines with adequate space to stock at least twenty tons of baled paper, etc. In addition, it has also provided temporary garage accommodation. Two further huts were acquired from Swanwick Hayes Villas site to provide storage accommodation for special grades of Waste Paper (i.e. Newsprint and Fibreboard) and also accommodation for two vehicles.

During 1959, we hope to provide amenities for the outdoor staff, including slipper baths, locker room, etc.

Garages. We have one large garage (containing an inspection pit) for one S. & D. Fore and Aft Refuse Collector, and one sideloading Dennis Refuse Collector. On each side we have a smaller building each capable of accommodating one side-loading vehicle, but one is in fact used for garaging the Muledozer by night and, by day, as a workshop for the stripping, sorting and grading of non-ferrous metals prior to sale. The other building is used as a store for special grades of paper until the minimum permitted quantity has been received under the terms of the contract with Thames Board Mills.

Stores. One large ex-army hut is used as a store for depot stores and materials, also as a storage space for replacement dustbins for Council houses, and those for purchase by private owners who care to purchase them from the Council.

House, Trade Refuse and Nightsoil.

The regular service was maintained, house refuse being collected from all premises in the area once per week ; trade refuse and salvage twice per week. Closet pails were emptied at least once per week, except in cases of overcrowded premises where pails are emptied twice weekly. Cesspools have been emptied free of charge twice

per year, and where necessary, additional clearances have been charged for. The revenue from these sources can be ascertained on reference to the costing report on services.

The Cesspool Emptier with nightsoil attachment has been in continuous service since March, 1946, thanks to a conscientious driver who, with the assistance of the Foreman, Mr. T. A. Smith, has seen to it that the spares for all wearing parts have been available and have been fitted when required. By this means we have been able to provide an uninterrupted service over the years. The machine has had its regular servicing and greasing, but it is now becoming evident that a replacement is necessary. I sincerely hope that it will be possible to include the provision of a new vehicle in the estimates for the financial year 1959/60. It will be noted that the Surveyor's department had the use of this vehicle for a total of 9 hours at a cost of £6 0 7d.

Disposal of House Refuse.

The benefit derived by the purchase of the Muledozer has once again been emphasised. As previously stated in last year's report, the capital cost was recovered in the first year by the savings in wages on the face of the tip. The manual effort of raking over the refuse has been eliminated and the tidiness of the surface of the tip is a cause for great satisfaction to officials and staff.

Levelling of the Brickyard, Somercotes.

The work of levelling this site to make a recreation ground was commenced in April. Tipping operations on the brickyard site opposite Aertex Factory gave no cause for apprehension during the year. The access layer was run across the site and all necessary precautions taken, *i.e.*, the laying of an 18 inch s.w. drain on the clay bed, post and wire fence to prevent waste paper nuisances arising, the regular spraying by Four Oaks portable spray using Cooper's Multi-Spray. The entire site has been a credit to the outdoor staff, who have made every effort to avoid complaints.

Composting.

Owing to the difficulty in obtaining supplies of straw, and the high cost of same, we have not been in a position to make compost during the past year. It is most unlikely that we will be in a position to meet the demands of gardeners and allotment holders during the coming gardening season. Every effort will be made to acquire a supply of straw during 1959.

Difficulty will be experienced in providing transport for the delivery of this material owing to the fact that we have reduced our fleet of refuse collectors to three by the introduction of the larger capacity refuse vehicles.

Unfortunately, the Surveyor is not always in a position to help us out, much as he would like to do so, owing to the heavy demands on his transport services.

Reclamation of Raw Materials.

Reference to the Costing Report on services will show the comparison in receipts from salvage in the year ending March, 1959, with the previous year :-

1953	474 tons at £6 12 1d. per ton.
1954	553 , " £5 11 6d. ,"
1955	550 , " £6 3 5d. ,"
1956	594 , " £6 17 4d. ,"
1957	545 , " £7 11 2d. ,"
1958	450 , " £7 10 11d. ,"
1959	351 , " £8 6 5d. ,"

We hope to continue our salvage effort however, as it is realised that there are other factors to be taken into consideration, apart from the monetary gain from salvage recovery.

House Refuse Collection.

	Tons	£	s.	d.
Dennis 6 removed	2281	762	4	8
S. & D. (1) ,	5035	1,331	18	9
S. & D. (2) ,	4915	1,309	1	3
	12231	3,403	4	8

The wages of the loaders (excluding on costs) £6497 13 8d. together with £3403 4 8d. cost of motors, gives a figure of 16/2½d. per ton compared with 16/10¾d. in 1957/58.

Wages including on costs were loaders £7872 8 4d. together with £3403 4 8d. cost of motors, giving a figure of 18/5½d. per ton.

Trade Refuse.

The income from 42 business premises for the collection of trade refuse not having any salvage value, and including various firms who deposit refuse on the tip at a charge of 1/- per load or ton, was £206 12 0d. Messrs. Deosan Ltd. have deposited 18 tons of straw at 1½d. per cwt., i.e. £2 4 9d.

Trade Refuse Collection.

<i>Expenditure :</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Loaders' wages	...	11	11	10		
Hire of lorries	...	6	9	6		
				18	1	4
<i>Income :</i>						
Trade Refuse				206	12	0
1957: £182 15 4d. Cr.				188	10	8 Cr.

140 Tons of trade refuse were collected and 1195 tons of trade refuse were deposited at Leabrooks Tip ; the income being in excess of expenditure.

Salvage Account.

<i>Expenditure :</i>		<i>£ s. d.</i>
Lorry hire	...	238 0 8
Wages ...	...	2,111 9 8
Baling Wire	...	34 7 6
Repairs to presses	...	44 5 10
Sundries	...	1 10 9
		<hr/>
1957 : £2,074 15s. 7d.		£2,429 14 5

<i>Income :</i>		<i>Tons cwts. qrs. lbs £ s. d.</i>
Mixed waste paper	...	151 11 2 0 1,136 16 3
Fibreboard	...	26 6 1 0 249 14 1
Newspaper	...	58 7 0 0 548 10 3
121 doz. Egg packers		2 15 6 1 0
Baled destructor scrap	91	2 0 0 663 16 0
Non-ferrous metals	...	1 2 2 27 137 9 9
Ferrous metals	...	15 3 0 0 133 10 6
Rags and textiles	...	2 8 0 14 39 6 4
Cullet	...	4 16 0 0 7 4 0
		<hr/>
	350 17 1 0	£2922 8 2

	<i>Tons cwts.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>		<i>Tons cwts.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
1933	0 0	15 2 11	1946	454	1,788 12 2
1934	0 0	109 5 9	1947	519	2,352 15 5
1935	0 0	140 11 6	1948	544	2,477 8 6
1936	0 0	329 10 0	1949	557	2,247 13 7
1937	0 0	562 14 6	1950	553	2,489 1 5
1938	0 0	340 6 6	1951	706	5,674 7 10
1939	0 0	355 17 2	1952	474	3,131 13 8
1940	356	1 1,168 8 0	1953	552	3,083 10 11
1941	426	7 1,348 6 2	1954	550	3,394 10 8
1942	692	8 2,672 12 3	1955	594	4,079 0 10
1943	548	9 $\frac{3}{4}$ 2,073 10 8	1956	545	4,119 17 3
1944	588	13 $\frac{3}{4}$ 2,097 17 5	1957	449	3,396 18 4
1945	525	8 1,806 13 6	1958	350	2,922 8 2

Total 9,991 tons, 10 cwts. £54,178 15s. 1d.

Efficiency Statistics.

Collection of house and trade refuse (including salvage collected separately).

(As supplied to the Ministry for inclusion in the Annual Costing Return).

Number of premises from which refuse is collected	7,973
Number of dustbins emptied weekly per annum ...	8,365
Estimated tonnage (refuse is check-weighed the first week in January and the first week in July) ...	12,583 tons
*Number of collectors	16
Weight of refuse collected per man hour per day (365 days per annum) ...	2.154 tons
*Number of bins emptied per man hour ...	11.88
*Number of premises cleared per man hour ...	11.32

Unit Costs :

Gross expenditure per ton	...	...	18/1
Net cost per ton	...	...	18/6 $\frac{3}{4}$
Net cost per 1,000 population	...	...	£508
Net cost per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected	...	...	£1,479
Total refuse collected (in tons)	...	...	12,583
Weight (in cwts.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days per annum)	...	...	29.94 cwts.

* Excluding driver who does not load.

House Refuse Disposal Account.

<i>Expenditure</i>		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wages on tip	...	...	1,583	13	1		
Lorry hire	...	...	23	5	1		
Muledozer	...	...	798	6	7		
Sundries	...	...	33	9	7		
1957: £1955 0 3d.						2,438	14 4

12,371 Tons of refuse were disposed of at 3/11 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per ton as compared with 3/2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ton in 1957. This increase is accounted for owing to loss of revenue totalling £172 as opencast rights.

Nightsoil Collection and Disposal Account.

<i>Expenditure</i>		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Loaders' wages	...	...	1,180	0	3		
Lorry hire	...	...	1,309	5	11		
Sundries	...	...	19	4	2		
						2,508	10 4

Income

Emptying Cesspools	...	40	0	2
1957: £2451 7s. 5d.				£2,468 10 2

4,265 Tons of nightsoil were collected at a cost of 11/6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per ton, compared with 10/9 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per ton in 1957, due to decreased tonnage removed.

Combined Costing.

Collection of wet and dry refuse:

	Tons	£	s.	d.
House refuse	12,231	9,900	18	4
Nightsoil	4,265	2,468	10	2
Trade Refuse	140	188	10	8
	16,636	£12,557	19	2

This gives a figure of 15/1d. per ton as compared with 15/3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per ton in 1957.

Rats and Mice Infestation Order.

<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Administration ...	6 12 7	
Wages ...	105 4 0	
Rat Bait ...	27 7 8	
	139 4 3	

Income

Ministry of Agriculture grant ...	63 4 2
Business premises ...	12 15 10
	76 0 0
Actual Expenditure ...	63 4 3

1957: £55 4s. 6d.

Sickness Return for the Year, 1958.

	<i>Sick Pay</i>	<i>Unpaid Sickness</i>	<i>Other time lost</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Number of men involved ...	28	20	43	91
				(actual 45)
2. Hours lost ...	5,501½	1,668	1,684	8,853½
3. Percentages of (2) to (5) ...	6·87%	2·08%	2·102%	11·05%
4. Total number of men employed ...		...	...	35
5. Possible working hours ...		...	...	80,080
6. Percentage of registered disabled persons to total staff :				
(a) commencement of period ...		...	...	8·57
(b) end of period ...		..	...	8·57
7. Number in (1) absent through illness ...	...	...	...	36
		accident ...	...	2

I would like to conclude my report with an expression of thanks to our Medical Officer of Health for his cordial co-operation with us during the year.

I record my thanks to Miss M. Boston and Miss D. Randle, who resigned in May, 1958, and Mr. G. E. Bunting, who commenced in July ; to my assistant, Mr. G. T. Hayes ; to Cleansing Department Foreman, Mr. T. A. Smith, and all outdoor staff for loyal service, and colleagues in other departments for their helpful co-operation.

Finally, to my Chairman of Committee, Councillor M. Hewitt, and all members of the Council, for their confidence and support.

E. MERCER.

MOTORS ACCOUNT

	Dennis 5	S. & D. I	Dennis 6	S. & D. 2	Muledozer
Service	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Drivers' Wages ...	... 573 11 3		415 4 9	448 2 5	455 4 11
On Costs ...	... 121 7 0		87 17 1	94 16 2	96 6 4
Petrol and Diesel	... 269 6 4		199 9 4	136 11 4	123 7 4
Oils ...	... 13 1 8		12 18 0	9 3 11	7 18 2
Licences ...	... 50 0 0		57 10 0	95 0 0	90 0 0
Repairs ...	... 64 0 8		169 15 9	87 16 1	2 0 0
Miscellaneous (including Insurance and Depreciation)	223 13 1		46 2 11	469 11 11	64 18 0
	1315 0 0	988 17 10	1341 1 10	1326 5 5	122 13 8

ALLOCATION OF EXPENDITURE ON MOTORS

	Dennis 5	S. & D. I	Dennis 6	S. & D. 2	Muledozer
Service	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
House Refuse Collection ...	2 3 10		762 4 8	1331 18 9	1309 1 3
House Refuse Disposal ...			2 0 3	5 1 0	798 6 7
Trade Refuse Collection ...			1 10 2	1 17 11	3 1 5
Salvage ...			220 12 5	2 4 2	14 2 9
Nightsoil Collection ...	1306 15 7		2 10 4		1 1 4
Nightsoil Composting ...					
Rats and Mice Destruction Depot ...	...	6 0 7			
Surveyor's Department ...					
	1315 0 0	988 17 10	1341 1 10	1326 5 5	799 7 11

Surveyor's Reports.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Alfreton Urban District Council.

Madam Chairman and Gentlemen.

I append herewith a summarised report compiled in accordance with Circular 2/50 dated 25th January, 1950.

It will be appreciated that whilst only certain information relating to Public Health matters is required, additional information of a brief character is appended for the information of the Council.

Water Supply.

The following particulars relate to the year ending 31st March, 1959:-

	<i>Gallons</i>
Supplied by the Derwent Valley Water Board	205,048,000
Pumped at Lea Hall Borehole ...	... 72,525,000
Pumped at Lindway Borehole ...	... 26,576,000
Pumped at South Wingfield Colliery _____
Supplied from impounding reservoirs ...	... 97,911,000
	402,060,000

The following figures supplied, by meter for trade purposes, relate to the year ending 31st March, 1959, and the calculations below are based upon the assumption that the population supplied by the Council was 21,178.

	<i>Gallons per head per day</i>
For domestic and public purposes ...	... 37.794
For trade purposes ...	... 12.666
As compensation etc. ...	... 1.553
	52.013

Water Sampling.

From Lindway Sources : Bacteriological.

Treated water, of 16 samples taken, 13 were satisfactory and 3 unsatisfactory.

Untreated water, of 4 samples taken all 4 were unsatisfactory. Chemical, of three samples taken of untreated water from the Lea and Lindway Sources all were satisfactory.

Waste of Water Notices - Public Health Act, 1875.

Two notices have been sent to owners of property to repair burst pipes etc., causing wastage of water.

301 taps have had new washers fitted free of charge by the Water Inspector, in order to conserve water supply.

Water Abstraction Regulations - 1947. Under Section 6 of the Water Act, 1945.

A daily record has been kept of water pumped from the Lea Borehole and Lindway Borehole and water analyses taken, and returns sent to the Director of the Geological Survey and Museum in accordance with the above regulations.

Burst Water Mains.

During the year 56 burst mains and leaking joints occurred on water mains in the Alfreton Urban District. Claims were made on the National Coal Board for 29 of these and I am pleased to report that responsibility for 24 of them has been accepted.

Summary.

	Alfreton	Somercotes	Riddings	Pye Bridge and Codnor Park and Golden Valley	Swanwick	Leabrooks	Other Districts	Total
Burst and								
Leaking Joints	25	10	6	7	2	2	4	56
Services Bursts								
and Leaks	10	5	3	3	4	1	2	28
Services								
Blown Out	18	2	3	-	1	-	-	24
Valves Repaired	1	2	1	-	1	-	2	7
Hydrants New	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	4
Hydrants								
Conversions	32	43	35	3	24	9	-	146
Hydrant Repairs	7	8	5	-	9	1	-	30
Stop Taps								
Repaired	17	8	4	-	5	2	-	36
New Services $\frac{1}{2}''$	6	6	9	-	7	-	-	28
New Services $\frac{3}{4}''$	3	1	3	-	1	-	-	8
Meters New	8	3	-	-	1	-	-	12
Meters Changed	5	1	1	-	2	-	-	9

Mains Extensions.

During the year the following mains extensions have been laid :

- (1) Windmill Estate, Riddings - 176 yards lineal of 4" Iron pipe.
- (2) Pease Close Estate, Alfreton - Junction with Nottingham Road, Alfreton - 24 yards lineal of 4" Iron pipe.
- (3) Industrial Estate, Alfreton - 200 yards lineal of 3" Iron pipe.

Derwent Valley Supply.

During the year the Derwent Valley Water Board turned off their supply at Codnor on three occasions for periods of from two to three days for the purpose of repairing their trunk main. On each of these occasions there was no difficulty in supplying the whole of the District from the other sources.

Housing.

During the year there were 12 three bedroom houses and four two bedroom bungalows completed and at the end of December 42 houses and 4 bungalows under construction. The Council's policy was to postpone building operations for general need cases for a period having regard to the very high Bank Rate and the fact that the Government subsidy was cancelled on houses for general need, and those built were for slum clearance only.

There were 42 houses built by private enterprise and the number of houses under construction at the end of 1958 by private enterprise was 19.

Housing Programme Summary at 31st December, 1958.

(a) Pre-war houses	...	...	...	...	456
Providence Place, Alfreton (existing houses purchased in 1957)	...	...	...	...	10
Catherine Street, Alfreton (existing houses purchased in 1957)	...	...	...	...	7
Alfred Street, Riddings (existing houses purchased in 1957)	...	...	...	...	6
(b) Post-war houses:-					
Pease Close Estate:-					
Two bedroom bungalows	...	...	14		
One bedroom bungalows	...	...	8		
Three bedrooms	...	...	88		
Two bedrooms	...	...	112		
Gregory flats	...	...	40		
Firs Estate	...	...	124		
Firs Estate Extension - two bedrooms	...	...	110		
,, ,, - three bedrooms	...	12			
,, ,, - bungalows	...	4			
Limes Avenue - three bedrooms	...	...	32		
,, - two bedrooms	...	98			
,, - bungalows	...	8			
Colin Street - bungalows	...	...	14		
,, - two bedrooms	...	10			
Rodgers Lane	...	...	3		
Swanwick	...	...	42		
Birchwood Lane, Somercotes	...	...	4		
Ironville	...	...	4		
Cottage Farm, Somercotes:-					
Houses - three bedrooms	132				
Houses - two bedrooms	104				
Bungalows - two bedrooms	8				
Bungalows - one bedroom	10				

		—	254
Park Side Houses - two bedrooms	...	24	
Windmill Estate	...	12	
South Spire Site			
Houses - three bedrooms	...	12	
Bungalows - two bedrooms	...	4	
		—	1033
Flats (Firs House)	...	2	
Aluminium Bungalows	...	20	
		—	22
		—	1534

Houses for Sale.

A pilot scheme was approved for the erection of 8 houses for sale in Birchwood Lane, Somercotes. If sufficient applicants came forward to purchase these houses, then further houses would be built on other sites.

The idea was a novel one and the Council are to be congratulated on the fact that it is one of the first in this country to be tried out.

Loans and Improvement Grants.

The Council have encouraged people to purchase their own houses and have advanced 32 loans for this purpose during the year. There have also been 17 grants on improvements of properties in the District.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Sewage Scheme.

During the year Messrs. Elliot and Brown substantially prepared the Riddings and Pye Bridge section of this scheme ready for putting out to tender.

Maintenance.

On the maintenance side, no large works of repair were carried out during the year. The position regarding the serious overloading of sewers and sewage disposal works remains the same. There have been adverse reports on effluents from some sewage works.

Highways.

Road works and maintenance have been carried out on many roads in the area. An effort has been made to effect an improvement in the condition of the footpaths, and large lengths of repaving and new kerbs have been relaid.

Street Scavenging and Gully Emptying.

There are 28 miles of roads in the Alfreton Urban District and these are swept regularly by 2 mechanical street sweepers.

one machine employed full time and the second machine employed approximately two or three days a week. There is a small amount of hand sweeping of footpaths etc. The 1,275 gulleys in the Urban District are cleansed between five and six times per annum, and are properly disinfected at each cleansing and the water seal made good. The gully emptier when not employed on emptying gulleys is used to flush out manholes and sewers in the District which tend to silt up and which have been affected by subsidence.

Street Lighting.

A new length of Street Lighting has been installed on A 613 between Ellesmere Avenue, Alfreton and Quarry Road, Somercotes. This main road lighting scheme comprised fluorescent lanterns in the main areas of population and sodium lanterns on other parts of the roads. Approximately two thirds of all roads in the District have now been converted to electricity.

Opencast Coal Sites.

The number of coal sites being worked in the District during 1958 was reduced to two; (1) Pennytown - the area between Nottingham Road, Somercotes and New Birchwood; (2) Alfred Sleet - the area between Sleetmoor Lane and Watchorn Park.

Restoration of footpaths across the Wren and Dean site in Alfreton Park area was carried out during this year.

Openings in Public Highways.

During the year there have been 371 applications for permission to break up public highways. Consequent reinstatement in all these cases have been carried out by the Council and charges made to the respective applicants.

Private Street Works.

The making up of Private Streets, Charles Street, and part of Limes Avenue, Alfreton, was carried out during the year. Specifications, Quantities, and Provisional Apportionments were prepared early in the year. Work was commenced in September and completed at the end of November. Abnormally wet weather hampered the work, but an excellent job was made with direct labour.

Cemeteries.

Interments during the year 1958:-

Alfreton Cemetery	...	...	67
Leabrooks Cemetery	...	...	59

Of the 29 new graves in Alfreton Cemetery, 26 were in the flat section, and in Leabrooks Cemetery, out of 17 new graves, 10 were in the flat section.

Memorials erected during 1958:-

Alfreton :-	headstones and kerbs	...	22
	vases	...	9
	inscriptions	...	6
Leabrooks :-	headstones and kerbs	...	24
	vases	...	10
	inscriptions	...	16

Pleasure Grounds.

The Pleasure Grounds at Alfreton, Somercotes, Riddings and Codnor Park have been maintained at a standard commensurate with the funds available for this purpose. One new football pitch has been constructed at the Alfreton Recreation Ground to replace a small football pitch taken over by the Derbyshire County Council. This pitch has been constructed with the banking around two sides and is suitable for league matches. Another sports arena, including football pitch, cricket pitch and running track has been planned and commenced at Cotes Park. Regrading after opencasting and the tipping of house refuse, and the laying of drains will eventually make this into a first class ground.

Alfreton Market.

The Friday market was fully let with all 58 stalls occupied for most of the year. The average lettings is just over 56 per week, due to stallholders absence in holiday periods

Saturday market lettings have again increased gradually through the year, fluctuating slightly with the season.

Industrial Estate.

It has been realised for some time that new industries are urgently required in this area and great efforts have been made to encourage the influx of industry. The construction of the new industrial site at Nix's Hill is the most important factor in this drive, as it will mean that sites will be available for the next few years for any new industry which can be persuaded to come. The Roads and Sewers have been completed during the year, one new factory has already been constructed, and three other sites have been sold.

Express Dairy Depot.

By making available a suitable piece of land at Cotes Park Depot the Council were successful in persuading the Express Dairy Co., Ltd., to erect a milk store and collecting depot thus avoiding the deposit of milk bottles at the roadside and providing more hygienic methods of distribution.

New Car Park, Alfreton.

The provision of a Car Park at Alfreton has long been a necessity. During 1958 land became available south of the 'Bus Station and was purchased for this purpose. A start was made on the construction of the new park.

Damage to Council Property.

The Council have been extremely concerned about the damage to buildings, equipment, trees, shrubs, and hedges etc., which has taken place during the year. It is estimated that the cost of repairing this damage will be £50.

Notification of Defects by Public Health Inspector.

During the year the Public Health Inspector has referred 70 complaints to me for my attention. Appropriate action was taken and the complaints remedied.

Close liaison has been maintained with all officers of the Council.

Sickness Return for the Year 1958.

	Sick Pay	Unpaid Sickness	Other time lost	Total
1. Number of men involved	104	32	48	184
2. Hours lost ...	... 12,501	456	741	13,698
3. Percentage of (2) to (5)	...		...	5·081%
4. Total Number of men employed			...	98
5. Possible working hours	...		...	231,792
6. Percentage of registered disabled persons to total staff				
(a) commencement of period - 1st Jan., 1958				14·43%
(b) end of period - 31st Dec., 1958			...	14·00%
7. Number in (1) absent through illness			...	99
do. do. do. accident			...	5

In conclusion I wish to express my thanks to the staff of this Department for their conscientious attention to duty and their loyal co-operation throughout the year, and to express my appreciation to the Chairman of the Council, and of all Committees, and Members of the Council for the help they have given.

F. P. WALTERS,

Surveyor and Water Engineer.

